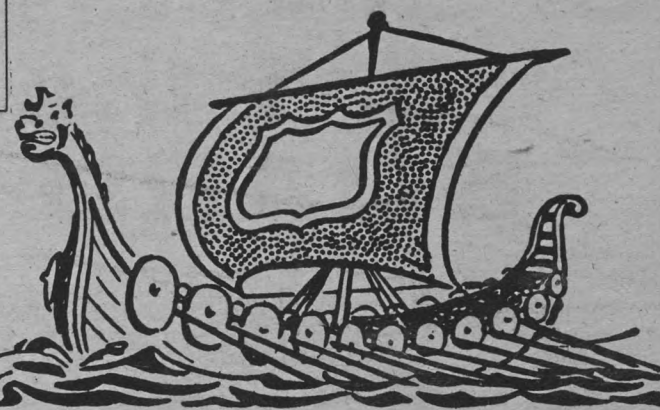


# Scandinavian Centre News



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Vol. XIV No. 8

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August 1974

## S/N International Convention

### Danish Ambassador to Visit Edmonton

The Dania Room at the Scandinavian Centre will be the site of a "kaffebord" for the Danes who wish to meet the Ambassador of Denmark to Canada, Mr. Henning Hjorth-Nielsen. It will be held in his honor on Thursday, September 5 at 8 p.m. sponsored by the Dania Society and the Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church, both of Edmonton. Mr. Hjorth-Nielsen expressed the desire to meet as many of his fellow countrymen as possible.

Ambassador Hjorth-Nielsen was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1913. He studied law at the University of Copenhagen and graduated in 1937. In 1938 he entered the Civil Service in the Ministry of Justice and in 1939 he was assigned as Secretary to the Governor of the Faroe Islands. He joined the British Forces in 1944 and was sent as Danish Liaison Officer to Germany after the war. He entered the Danish Foreign Service in 1946.

From 1951 to 1952 he served on the Danish Delegation to the North Atlantic Council and from 1952 to 1954 on the International Secretariat of NATO. From 1954 to 1957 he headed the Danish Delegation to the Organisation of European Economic Co-operation in Paris. From 1959 to 1963 he was Consul General in London and in 1963 he was transferred as Ambassador to The Hague. From 1966 until 1973 he was Danish Permanent Representative to The North Atlantic Council in Brussels. From 1967 he was also Danish Ambassador in Brussels and in Luxembourg.

In 1947 Ambassador Hjorth-Nielsen married Ernestine Gottfried, born in New York. They have one daughter.

### B.T. Stephanson Appointed

The appointment of B. T. Stephanson as chairman of the Department of Agriculture Engineering was recently announced and is for a five-year term, effective July 1, 1974. Professor Stephanson replaced Dr. K. W. Domier who plans to take a year's sabbatical leave for study in Sweden and to then return to teaching duties within the department.

Professor Stephanson is an experienced administrator having served as acting chairman of the Agricultural Engineering Department. During a period in which he was seconded to the Canadian International Development Agency by the university, he served as head of the Agricultural Engineering division at the University of West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad. He also served as head of the Agricultural Engineering Department of the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana and as Dean of Agriculture at the university in Ghana.

While Agriculture Dean at the University of Science and Technology, he was able to have the Canadian aid increased from one staff member to five. Also during that time a beef and dairy herd was set up at the university with Canadian aid.

Professor Stephanson graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1944 and was then appointed as the first Extension Agricultural Engineer for the province of Alberta. He held that position until joining the staff at the University of Alberta as a sessional lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Engineering two years later.

At the University of Alberta he has taught courses in farm power, machinery and materials for handling fields, and has published papers in the journals of the Canadian Society of Agricultural Engineering and the American Society of Agriculture Engineers.

By Gladys C. Clark  
Publicity Director

Plans for the convention are in the final stages and from the responses of members and visitors wishing to attend, it is really overwhelming.

Our five Alberta lodges are doing a tremendous job of making this a very enjoyable time for those who will be attending from throughout United States and Canada. We have some 600 persons coming from across the border.

The ladies who are working on

the display of Norwegian handicrafts for the convention are busy and will be showing a very nice display of which we can be proud.

We sincerely hope everyone attending will enjoy the events planned for them. It is our wish that everyone will be able to take advantage of any opportunities to discover the wondrous beauty and warm "western hospitality" of our sunshine province.

See you at the convention. □

## VANCOUVER'S SWEDISH COMMUNITY

By Miss Margaret McInall  
Vancouver, B.C.

It is probable that the average resident of Vancouver is almost unaware of the Swedish community in that city. Nevertheless, there are about 6,000 expatriate Swedes there and its immediate vicinity, and it has been estimated that approximately 20,000 people of Swedish descent reside in the lower mainland area of B.C.

On the whole, the Swedish immigrants have assimilated very well into the larger fabric of Canadian society, and their children are almost completely integrated. However, their integration into the Canadian community does not necessarily imply total submersion in the new culture with the loss of all the old traditions nor a break with those who share them. Since the arrival of the first Swedish immigrants, there have been many activities in which these people engaged as a group, in addition to their individual participation in the development of Vancouver.

The history of the Swedish community has already been treated in a book, *Vancouver's Svenskar*, (1) by Irene Howard, and also in a chapter of John Norris' book on immigrants to British

(1) Vancouver, Vancouver Historical Society, 1970.

(Continued on Page 10)



J. Edward Ness, Convention Chairman.



# SPLINTERS from the BOARD

By Anne Sahuri  
TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The tenth anniversary celebrations of the building of the Scandinavian Centre on June 21, 1974, went very well although the attendance wasn't as big as I had thought.

The honored guests included the Honorary President of the Scandinavian Centre, Mr. Sig Sorenson and Mrs. Sorenson, last year's Scandinavian Centre Queen Miss Donna Cameron, Consuls of Scandinavian countries or their representatives and also a representative from the government.

After the delicious dinner, various thought-provoking speeches were presented, among those a speech by Harvey Haugen, the president of the Scandinavian Centre.

The Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Knut Svidal.

Dancing followed and was enjoyed by all.

## RADIO BROADCAST

Don't forget to phone Mr. Allan Sorenson at 452-3387 regarding the announcements on the radio report.

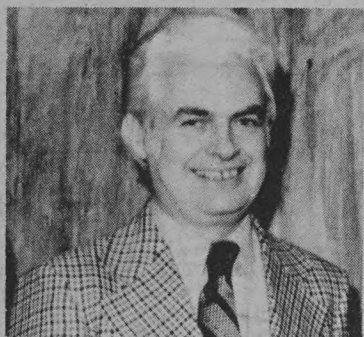
## Mayor's Column

By Ivor Dent  
KLONDIKE DAYS

Klondike Fever first began back in the eighteen hundreds, about the time gold had been discovered along the North Saskatchewan River. In 1898 it reached epidemic proportions, following the news that gold had been discovered in the Yukon. Edmonton, a small frontier town of approximately 1500 people, suddenly became alive with activity. Men by the thousands converged on Edmonton, some of them stopping for days, others for weeks or even months before making the final trek to the Yukon.

From this early beginning one of the largest and most colorful celebrations in history has come to life. Klondike Days in Edmonton, now an annual event, celebrates one of our most romantic eras in early history. Everywhere you went throughout the city July 17 to 27, you were able to capture some of the colorful Klondike fever. Bands marched along the streets. There were Klondike shows, events and attractions galore. Everywhere you were able to live and re-live every magic moment of this golden era.

I hope every one of you took part in this annual festival of fun.



IVOR DENT  
Mayor of Edmonton

## AUTOMOBILE SAFETY

Always keep your car in A-1 mechanical condition. No one can argue against such a common-sense statement... yet how many of us actually do it?

Unfortunately there are too many of us driving automobiles today who do not make all necessary repairs until we are actually required to do so. Brakes that feel spongy; headlights that have been knocked out of alignment; electric turn signals that do not function properly; worn windshield wiper blades;... these and many other items I could mention, all contribute to our driving safety or lack of it.



HORST SCHMID

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Most of the items cannot be detected by an officer on patrol duty. It is only when an accident actually happens that the defect can be discovered. And then it is too late.

It is for these reasons and others that has prompted the City of Edmonton to present a resolution to the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, urging the establishment of a province-wide compulsory vehicle testing program.

The Alberta Motor Association, the Alberta Safety Council and the Insurance Agents Association of Alberta have all indicated support for some form of province-wide vehicle testing program.

We are concerned about the ever-increasing number of motor vehicle accidents. Increased driver education, law enforcement and compulsory motor vehicle inspection are three measures which should help curb this increase.

## THE ALBERTA HERITAGE DAY ACT

On June 6, 1974, the Alberta Government enacted The Alberta Heritage Day Act which was recommended to the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation, The Hon. Horst Schmid, by the Alberta Heritage Council.

The first Monday in August is to be the holiday. Here is how the act reads:

**WHEREAS** Alberta is a province settled and inhabited by many different peoples, the diversity of whose culture gives a depth and richness to life in Alberta; and

**WHEREAS** it is fitting that a special day of the year should be appointed for the people of Alberta to recognize and celebrate the cultural heritage of Alberta, to pay grateful tribute to the memory of the early inhabitants and later settlers who have contributed to the history of the Province and to dedicate themselves anew to the maintenance and furtherance of the cultural traditions of our native and founding peoples;

**THEREFORE HER MAJESTY**, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. The first Monday in August in each year shall be kept and observed as a day of public celebration and known as "Alberta Heritage Day".

2. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

## SCANDINAVIAN MUSICIAN

Edwin Erickson has been granted a recording contract with Rodeo Records Ltd. of Peterborough, Ont., and his first LP recording will be released sometime the middle of this month.

Edwin is a member of Vasa Lodge Skandia #549 and has done a good deal of playing in the Scandinavian Centre for virtually all the groups. As a matter of fact his accordion has been heard at the Scandapades performances for the past five years in a row.

Edwin is currently on a two-month engagement playing in Kimberley, B.C.

## The Scandinavian Centre Directors

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Scandinavian groups, societies, organizations, associations or clubs may receive the paper by sending in a list of members' names and addresses. A mailing charge will be the only cost at 6¢ per copy. This payment and any other correspondence should be addressed to:

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# SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



By Sig Sorenson

## COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, August 28:

General meeting, Scandinavian Centre.

\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Svend Tychsen have had as guests Svend's two sisters and a brother-in-law from Sonderbrag and Copenhagen, Denmark, for four weeks. Ten days were spent on a trip to Jasper, Lake Louise, Banff, Radium Hot Springs and the Calgary Stampede.

We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Ella Coburn and family on the recent passing of Ella's mother, Mrs. Emma Bredesen.

Mr. and Mrs. Knut Svidal and boys are enjoying a vacation in Minneapolis and other points in the U.S.A. Knut also attended a Sons of Norway Supreme Lodge meeting while in Minneapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Sig Sorenson and Sharon spent a few days at Chauvin recently where they attended the funeral of Selma's mother, Mrs. Berit Johnson.

Miss Karen Nasset has returned home from Norway. She has spent a year there attending

school.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sorenson, Sidney and Rodney flew in their small plane to Jasper for a week-end of fishing.

Kelowna, B.C., will be the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart after Aug. 15. Their new home is almost ready to move into.

**SONS OF NORWAY MEMBERS!** Don't forget the big Sons of Norway Supreme Convention at Banff on Aug. 22-24. It is the first Supreme convention ever held in Alberta. Remember, also, you need not be a delegate to attend.

Recently Walter Meyer's aunt and uncle, Svein and Elly Tyldum, of Tonsberg, Norway, visited with the Meyers. They brought their friend, Nelly Sande, with them. The three were very impressed with our city. They motored to Dawson Creek with Walter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Myhre, and found the north country both vast and beautiful. Banff was the highlight of their holidays. They returned to Tonsberg on June 26. Walter and Ella Meyer recently spent 5 days in Las Vegas enjoying the entertainment, weather and gambling. □

just going to tell me what exact time he was coming for me, the way a Canadian would do. But no, first he reminded me about what we had said about him coming to get me, and next he asked if I was still willing to go along with it. He gave me a chance to back out again in such a nice way that nobody's feelings would have been hurt even if we decided to forget about the whole deal.

Even in Oslo, nobody asks you bluntly to come over to his house. They first have to ask many round-about questions to find out if it is convenient for you. This way they safeguard themselves against being turned down in an abrupt sort of way, and it gives the person being asked a chance not to go if he has other things on. Nobody has to make any excuses and they don't try and talk you into anything. I still remember what Honorable Horst Schmid said when he came back from his first trip to Norway. He said something like, "Oslo must have been the cradle of civilization, and it is the place where what we mean by culture must have gotten started." And politeness is certainly a very important factor in what we call culture.

It seems like language is a living thing and it keeps changing through the years. My "norsk" (Norwegian) had remained unchanged for the last 25 years and I found I was using many words and expressions that had become outdated. When I left in 1949 we were kind of in the horse and buggy days over there compared to now, so the language is changing to keep up with the times. But it happens fairly slowly, so you hardly notice it if you are using the same language every day. I have heard about cases in North Dakota, where the Norwegian language doesn't change and it is said that some of them speak similar to what Bjornstjerne Bjornson used when he wrote "Synnove Solbakken".

Another thing going on in Norway today is that the local dialects are being smoothed out. People travel more and they don't always marry someone from the same neighbourhood as they more or less used to do.

Farming is changing in Norway. For one thing there seems to be a trend away from dairy farming and towards grain farming. The reason for this is that there are hardly any young people on the farms anymore and grain farming is less work so the old man can look after it himself alone. The young people leave because there is not enough going on out in the farm country during the week. The only thing to do is mainly go to bed. It seemed whatever entertainment there was would be on Saturday night, and that is not enough—you can ask any youngster in Edmonton.

The dairy farmers staged a 3-day delivery strike in May, something that was unheard of 25 years ago. Everywhere I went during the strike, people served a lot of sour cream and waffles, also "Rommegrot" (cream porridge), the country was flowing with milk and honey, so to speak. Norway imports a lot of feed for their cattle and I reckon the profit-margin is so small that they had to remind everyone how tough it was to be a dairy farmer. As far as I know, nobody suffered any hardships from the short-lived strike.

Farming in the valleys of Norway and on the Canadian prairie are two different things, especially as far as size is concerned, and when you talk about Canadian farming you have to be careful not to offend them and get the reputation of being a braggart. Hans, an 86-year-old neighbour of ours in Surnadal, was talking about

this and he figured there would be fewer and bigger farms in the future. Even now a lot of farmers have jobs besides the farm. But when I travelled over Dovre by train, I saw places that are hard enough to cultivate the size they are now, and there will hardly be modern farming in the steep hills. Seeing some of those places reminds you a little of what it says in Haavamaal: "One's own home is best, though it be but a cottage. A man is a man in his own house. Though thou hast but two goats and a hut of hurdles, yet that is better than begging."

A young Swede I was talking to on the train said they had gotten rid of those kinds of farms in Sweden, but what they had done with them wasn't quite clear. He turned out to be quite a patriot so when I mentioned that Norway is now an oil producing nation, he merely said that they will only have enough for their own home consumption. But isn't it great for a country to have enough oil and gas for their own use nowadays? When I told him I was on my way back to Canada, I could tell by the look on his face that he felt nothing but pity for me. When I commented on the fact that taxes are higher in Sweden than in Canada, all he said was: "We pay more and we get more."

A funny incident happened as we were approaching Oslo. The train made what looked like an unscheduled stop and two big, bad policemen appeared and escorted a man off the train. The young Swede explained to me he had seen the man in the car in front of us. He had had one too many and, to make matters worse, he was on the wrong train. Well, practically everybody was watching the proceedings and we heard a woman say: "And he is a Swede." This was too much for my young-Swedish friend, and he spoke up in a gradually louder voice: "No, he is a nordmann (Norwegian)." He seemed to take it as a personal insult if anyone even suggested that a Swede could do anything wrong. He did not seem to believe in all this nonsense about us being all equal, that one nation is as good as another, etc. He stood his ground as a patriot without flinching, and I respected him for it. This young man was just "being himself" as we say in Norway, and when we said goodbye at the railroad station in Oslo, he was looking for the fastest train to Sweden, and I could tell by the eager look on his face that he could not get back to his "promised land" soon enough.

Now I am going back to the beginning of my story again. When

(Continued on Page 9)

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## NORWAY IMPRESSIONS

By Olav Sveen

Last month I wrote about my trip to Norway and it was mostly about the musical aspects of the trip. This time I shall mention other impressions I got over there.

My home in Norway is in Surnadal, Nordmore, right by the Trollheimen (Home of the Trolls) Mountains. My parents live there and they live in such a beautiful setting that it is quite unbelievable.

My Dad is now 80 years old but we went walking, looking at the sights I used to see in my younger days. My Mom did not walk so much but she did all the real Nordmore cooking and we had sill-ball, rommegrot, etc., and my brother, Georg, drove me around in his Mercedes-Benz.

Now to mention some of the impressions. First of all, I had been gone for a quarter of a century, and a lot of things happen in that length of time. It is something like watching a movie and you miss a great deal of it, then you come back to watch the end and you have to try and figure out what has been happening. As you know, I came from the farm country and used to know a lot of people around there. In more cases my old friends are now being pushed aside, or into the background, and the young generation is taking over. And when I left 25 years ago, this young generation was hardly born yet. Also, when you meet your old school chums, you have to be careful not to ask about their Mom and Dad—they are apt not to be around any more.

When you come from a fairly large city on the prairie and go to a place like Surnadal with all its natural beauty and quietness, you feel like you have gotten away from it all. You are back with mother nature again, where there is no pollution. But for the people living in the valley, this is not good enough. Practically everyone has a cabin up in the hills or in the mountains, and this is where

many of them spend their week-ends. Leif and Helga, a couple I know, told me they had been to their cabin 23 times since New Years, and this was in May, or about four-and-a-half months. To get to the cabin, Leif drives by car 12-15 kilometers, then walks for about an hour-and-a-half. This was average, and no wonder people stay in good shape! Furthermore, I was told there is only one movie a week on TV in Norway so people don't sit around and get flabby from that kind of inactive entertainment.

In the past, people have been allowed to build cabins any old place. Only very recently has the government come up with rules and regulations. Gunnar, a school chum of mine, took me by car up a new 3-million kroner road to Vindoldalen, a mountain valley in Trollheimen. The road is narrow and steep with no guard railing whatever, and it is built about maybe a kilometer up in the mountainside. When you look down it seems like it is straight down to the river. I was told a story about a man who had the misfortune of losing a front wheel of his car there. It rolled down to the river and disappeared, but luckily he got out and was able to hang on to the car so it didn't go over the cliff also. Someone happened to come along and helped straighten out the situation. When you are used to the flat lands of the prairie, you don't quite feel at home in places like that, even if you happen to have grown up there.

People in Norway are very polite. I met an old friend and he said he was going to come and pick me up in his car and take me to his place the following Tuesday evening. On Tuesday afternoon he phoned me up and I thought he was

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# ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

## Alberta Icelandic Independence

### Day a Success

By Les Greenham

#### THE PLACE

Markerville, Alberta — the original settlement in Alberta.

#### THE DAY

Saturday, June 22, 1974.

#### THE OCCASION

To celebrate Iceland's National Independence Day.

#### THE RESULTS

Fabulous, to be honest, beyond all expectations.

#### THE COMMENTS

Wow! Let's make it bigger and better next year.

To which we say, "Yes, Siree!"

Friends, Icelanders and fellow countrymen, as most of you know who read this column, for years the Markerville area held a picnic. Eventually, due to the weather and unknown factors, it almost disappeared. Then about three years ago the Saga Singers of the Icelandic Society of Edmonton were either invited or just went to Markerville, we are not sure which, and put on a concert in conjunction with the picnic. As a result of this venture, it was decided to continue with this project.

After the second venture, some people began having visions or dreams of a possible *Islandings-adagurinn*. Consequently a lot more thought and effort was put into it. Last year the Leif Eiriksson Club of Calgary was approached with this vision in mind and they agreed to participate, with the result that this year's effort was tremendous. All told, Yours Truly estimates there were about 350 people there.

Festivities got under way about 1:30 p.m. with a variety of races for young and old alike—sack races, a 3-legged race, hidden shoe race, you name it, we had it. Tug-o'-war, horseshoes, ball games, etc., were also played. Then about 4 p.m. the Edmonton Saga Singers under the able direction of Della Roland, and the Calgary Choir (we don't know what they call their choir) sang a variety of songs which lasted for over an hour and if the applause was any indication, it was a huge success.

Margaret Decosse deserves special recognition since she came all the way from St. Paul to participate with the Saga Singers, helped the Calgary Choir and did several solos.

We would like to give a great big pat on the back to the members of the Calgary Choir who participated as there were only six members who could make it. But they can be proud of how good they sounded despite being so few in number. Several members couldn't make it due to previous commitments.

Oh, yes, your correspondent is obviously biased but he thinks the best race of the day was the special one between himself and Ninna Campbell which ended up in a dead heat. Since that race Ninna and myself have decided that, as a team, we feel we are unbeatable so we have decided to challenge a couple from Markerville as well as a couple from Calgary to a race next year. Mind you, if a

couple from Saskatchewan or Manitoba think they can beat us they are welcome to enter, too. Would you believe it, Lillian MacPherson thinks her mother and dad could beat us! I'll tell you what, Hafstein, we shall be good sports if you two think you can beat us, we shall give you a head start.

One more comment regarding the race: Ninna and myself want to offer a special thank you to Mrs. Elliott and the Next-To-New Shop at 10752 - 124 St. We went there looking for comical clothing items for the race. When Mrs. Elliott realized what we wanted the items for she became so interested in helping us out she even brought a dress of her own from Fort Saskatchewan. She was so excited about the race she regretted she couldn't see it. All items used in the race were courtesy of the Next-To-New Shop and all they asked in return was to give them some publicity. So come on, friends, if you have something to donate or if you want to buy something drop in sometime. You will be surprised at what a selection they have.

Well now, let's get back to some more details of the day and night and, would you believe, the next day! After the choir finished their polished performances, plus a couple of numbers by Solli Sigurdson, which went over just great, we then had what I would call a feast. Man, was that food just great!

After supper everybody spruced up a bit. You know, the women with their make-up, lipstick, etc., and the men with a shot or two of Mr. Johnny Walker and then off to the old community hall for an old-fashioned hoedown which lasted till two or three o'clock in the morning. Man, oh, Man, what a dance!

Then, as a result of the tremendous hospitality of the residents of Markerville, who made their homes available to visitors, we stayed overnight and had a coffee party the next day before heading back to our own homes. In conclusion, just a couple of remarks: What wonderful people live in Markerville and what a fantastic celebration everyone had. Thank you to you all who participated and we shall see you next year.

#### BROTHER SEES SISTER AFTER 40 YEARS

Sat., July 6 was probably one of the most joyous days in Art Arnfinson's life. On this day, Art met and saw his sister, Margrette, for the first time in forty years, so you don't need much imagination to know how happy they both were at that moment. Margrette and her husband, Allan Rathbone, of St. Catharines, Ont., are holidaying in Alberta and B.C.

In their honor, Art and Vi planned a family reunion on Sat., July 6 at Laurier Park, but unfortunately in the late afternoon someone upstairs turned on the water tap so they continued the celebration at the home of Allen and Jerry Frieze. Out-of-town relatives were Dori and Gertie Arnfinson of Kimberley,

B.C.; Eldage and Barbara Gauchier and 3 children of Fort McMurray; Mrs. Rose Arnfinson, Shirley and Miles of Lac La Biche; and Bill and Illa Drever and 2 children of Calgary. All told there were 50 of the family at the party.

Shortly after this memorable occasion, Yours Truly met with Art and Vi and we had a wonderful conversation. Naturally we talked a lot about this occasion and they both mentioned how much they appreciated Allen and Jerry Frieze opening their home for them. Vi also wants to thank all the girls for all their help which made the party so successful. They also mentioned that while here, Allan Rathbone, who is an artist, painted two pictures for them and if you want to see some good paintings, just drop around to 11732 - 91 St. They would love to see you.

After this reunion, which was enjoyed by all and that goes without saying, Dori and Gertie took the visitors on a camping trip to Lac La Biche and then on to Kimberley, B.C., and various places through the interior of B.C.

#### FLIGHT TO ICELAND

July 8 was an exciting day for people boarding the Vancouver Charter Flight to Iceland. They were Rosa Benediktson of Red Deer, Berkly Letourneau of Spruce Grove, Bill and Edith Peterson and two children of Edmonton.

On Tues., June 11, Freda Smith put on a beautiful buffet supper party for about twenty people at her home. This occasion was to honor our Scandinavian Centre Queen, Donna Cameron, who has reigned for the past year. We were just talking to Freda and we agreed that Donna did a magnificent job in her role as queen. She never once neglected her duties and, Donna, you can be proud of yourself. At this party she was presented with a gift and this was just prior to her trip to Denmark and we understand the flight to Denmark is for 3 weeks. The Scandinavian Centre up to now has presented the queen with a flight to a Scandinavian country.

#### TRAVELLING

Hafstein and Lillian Bjarnason were in Edmonton recently visiting with their daughter and family, Lillian and Lorne MacPherson. Hafstein had made Lillian's lovely new kitchen cupboards and came to install them. Lillian's brother, John, his wife, Roslyn, and daughter, Holly, came all the way from Vancouver to help with this installation. In spite of all the work at hand, I'm sure they all enjoyed the visit.

Cindy Thorvaldson spent the month of July in Holland with the Edmonton All-Girl Ambassadors Marching Band. On July 6 the band won a gold medal in the World Band Festival at Kerbrade, Holland. Carla Thorvaldson and Linda Crawford (daughter of Lucy and Ralph Crawford) are in the Junior Band and will travel to Kelowna, Penticton and Spokane to perform in early August.

Gunnar's mother, Margret Thorvaldson, of Winnipeg, visited with him and his family during May, and in July Shirley's parents, Herb and Laura Edgar, of Lyleton, Man., visited on their way to B.C.

NEWCOMERS TO EDMONTON  
Sid and Susan Braybrook and children, Carla, Paula and Dana, originally from Lundar, Man., have now made their home in Edmonton. Sid works with North West Orient Airlines and was recently transferred here by them. Susan is the daughter of Sigrun and Murt Miller and I understand the Saga Singers may have themselves a new soprano here.

Newcomers Joe and Linda Laxdal (both Icelandic) and family, Bill and Nancy, are here from

## Markerville Race Entertaining

By Gunnar C. Thorvaldson

The Third Annual Icelandic Celebration was held in Markerville on June 22 complete with concession stands, fastball, horseshoes, tug-o'-war, nail-driving contest and a variety of races. The highlight of the races was the race between Les Greenham and Ninna Campbell.

Last year, Les, who is the Scandinavian Centre News correspondent for the Icelandic Society in Edmonton, commented about Ninna coming last in a ladies' race. This remark brought a challenge from Ninna that they race. In Edmonton there was considerable friendly rivalry about it all winter and when the big event finally arrived it turned out to be very entertaining.

The racers came out in old-fashioned bathing suits and then raced to a designated spot where there were two bags of clothing. Ninna's apparel consisted of men's long underwear, high, lace-up boots, and other work-type clothing for men. Les had to put on a corset, dress, hat, etc. Ninna had a little trouble getting dressed because of a male chauvinist kicking her boots and clothes around, however, she caught up to Les when he stopped, opened his purse and started to powder his nose.

The race ended in a dead heat so I guess we'll have another winter of controversy.

Next year?????

"What's for dinner?" asked the cannibal chief.

"Baked beings," replied the cook.

\*\*\*

Until the other day, a lady, aged one hundred and eight, had never seen an automobile, which explains why she is one hundred and eight.

\*\*\*

For her first dinner, a young bride served a ham with both ends cut off. Her explanation for the cut ends: "That's the way Mother always did it."

The next time his mother-in-law came over, the young husband asked about the cut ends and she said, "That's the way Mother always did it."

When Grandma came for dinner one night, the young man asked her why she cut off the ends of hams when she baked them. She said, "That's the only way I could ever get them to fit into the pan!"

Winnipeg. Joe is with the T. Eaton Co. and they joined us for the Icelandic Celebration at Markerville. We hope to see more of them too.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Birthday greetings this month go mostly to the Oddson family. They are Chris, Aug. 6; Leoni Hagan, 20th; Cathy, 30th; and Leif Jr., 31st.

Other birthdays in August are Mrs. Sadie Lee, Red Deer (age?); Mrs. Bergros Palsson, Port Coquitlam, B.C.; and Yours Truly, the racer, on the 24th.

#### BIRTHS

We have just returned from a visit with Mike Johnson at McQueen Lodge. While there he showed us a picture of his first great grandson. Congratulations to the proud parents, Lorraine and Lockie Shaw, on the birth of Travis Michael, June 4, 1974.

## Johann Johnson Dies at 80

Johann Helgi Johnson passed away shortly after his 80th birthday at the Allan Gray Auxiliary Hospital on June 28.

Mr. Johnson was born on Jan. 12, 1894, at Tantallon, Sask. He grew up in this Icelandic community and became well-known for his violin playing.

In his early years he worked at many jobs—farming on Kindersley farms, working in a butcher shop and painting houses in Winnipeg.

In 1925, he married Anna Graham Dawson. He then began buying grain for the North Star Grain Co. He spent eight years at Meota, two years at Tisdale, and two years at Redberry. In 1935, he bought his first country store at Rex, Sask., and remained there until 1941, when he sold the store and went to Fort Nelson on construction work. In 1943, they again returned to the store business, this time at Botha, Alta., and two years later went to New Norway. After selling the store there, Johann then moved to Winnipeg where he again bought a small store in St. Vital.

In the early 1950s, the Johnsons moved to Edmonton where Joe went back to carpenter work. Following Anna's death he moved into a senior citizens' home. From there he took a trip to Europe and became seriously interested in bridge playing. In 1972 he attended the Masters Bridge Tournament in Honolulu.

Mr. Johnson became ill in January of this year just after his 80th birthday and died on June 28.

He leaves two daughters, Lois (Mrs. T. J. Norris) and Mrs. Shirley Lundberg and four granddaughters, and one brother, Michael, 84, residing in Edmonton.

## SAS Names First

### Woman Manager

Scandinavian Airlines has appointed a woman station manager at Brussels. It is the first such Scandinavian female appointment made by SAS abroad.

She is 28-year-old Lena Walinder who assumed her new post on April 1.

Miss Walinder, who joined SAS as a passenger service officer at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport in 1967, acquired a solid background in the airline's traffic and technical operations and was promoted to load control supervisor in 1971.

A gifted linguist, she had been serving in a supervisory capacity at the SAS station at Brussels Airport since last summer.

Born in Overlulea in northern Sweden and currently a resident of Marsta outside of Stockholm, Miss Walinder speaks fluent French and English in addition to her native Scandinavian tongues.

She spent two years at college in New York and later gained an advanced degree in Russian at Uppsala University. She also speaks Italian and Spanish.

She has 12 DC-9 flights a week between Scandinavia and the Belgian capital: daily Stockholm-Copenhagen-Brussels and return, and a new service between Oslo and Brussels via Copenhagen five days a week.

In Bucharest SAS has had a female station representative for the past year, Mrs. Beatrice Georgescu, a native of Roumania.

Wally K. Broen, B.Comm., C.A.

Chartered Accountant

9560 - 111 Avenue

Edmonton, Alberta

Phone 474-2006



# VASA LODGE SKANDIA



By Millie Weiss

The regular meeting was held on July 6 at 7:30 p.m. with Joan Petersson as chairman.

Reports from the Grand Lodge were heard from delegates.  
**SICK LIST**

Victor Bergstrom, Carol Brandle, Hilda Rydman, Mrs. Linden and Florence Erickson. Hurry and get well, folks.

A Klondike dance and pancake supper were held after the dance. Many thanks to the conveners. A good time was had by all.

Visitors from Sweden also attended the dance. They were the guests of Henry and Linnea Lodge.

Clifford and Paula Lindberg have been on holidays in Mapleridge visiting Cliff's mother and Bernice in Richmond. They also visited Ray and Dorothy Eckman. They send greetings to all their friends in the lodge. They were accompanied home by their grandson, Darrin Pearson, and Brian and Cheryl Lindberg from Kelowna.

## COMING EVENTS

On Sat., Aug. 3 the next meeting will be held in the Club House at Pigeon Lake at 7:30 p.m. and a **Moonlight Dance (?)** will be held after. Clarence and Helen Berg will be the host and hostess.

On Sun., Aug. 4 Herman Nelson will show slides and other films. Time, 9 p.m.

On May 14 Anna Sund flew to Vancouver to spend a week with

her brother, Axel Dahlgren, who was recovering from a heart attack.

Ray and Doreen Nyroos hosted a dinner at the Vasa Club House, Pigeon Lake, on May 19 for the Vasa Folk Dancers assisted by Leonard and Joan Petersson. The affair was very much enjoyed by all.

Roy and Donald Samuelson flew to Vancouver to attend the funeral of Roy's uncle, Ernie Samuelson, who passed away after a lengthy illness.

Alma Samuelson is now a resident at Parkland Nursing Home (formerly Sherbrook Nursing Home) after spending three months in Royal Alex Hospital.

Ron and Carol Brandle, with their daughters, Donna and Connie, are home visiting with relatives and friends after spending two years in Aberdeen, Scotland. They will now be residing for one year in Saudi Arabia. Ron is managing operations in that area for A.M.F. Tuboscope of Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Johnson's daughter, Jerry, and her two sons were up visiting from New Mexico. They spent the July 1st weekend visiting with friends at Vasa Park.

"To all Vasa members and all friends, a sincere thank you for all your visits, flowers and cards I received during my three-month stay in the Royal Alex Hospital. You made the time while I was ill much easier to bear. It really seems to help a lot just knowing people care."—Alma Samuelson. □

# NEWS FROM SWEDEN

By Ove Kampe  
Foreign Correspondent

Sweden had fine weather in May and the first half of June. No rain at all, and all farmers were unhappy. But when the holidays began the rain also began, and it has been raining very much. So now many Swedes go abroad to the south of Europe.

\*\*\*

The greatest team sport in Europe is soccer football. In Sweden there are two great team sports—ice hockey and soccer football. Soccer is No. 1. Most Swedes are interested in soccer and hockey.

We have no professional players in Sweden. Every player has a job. But we have "exported" many soccer players, especially to Italy, West Germany and the Netherlands. And in hockey we have "exported" some players to Canada. There are two players in Toronto.

The World Championships in soccer were played in West Germany during June and July. The Swedish team played very well and with a little bit of luck could have gone to the finals.

Sweden should have won against Poland. They had many chances

the route make it possible to break the drive with one or two overnight stays.

A busy steel manufacturing town and flourishing ore port, Lulea also has a charming old section, Gammelstad, known for its lovely church and 500 church cottages originally built as rest-houses for worshippers who traveled long distances to attend services.

The route between Lulea and Kiruna, Sweden's northernmost city above the Arctic Circle, follows the Lule River for some 100 miles and then skirts the Muddus National Park, one of seven in the Norrbotten region of northern Sweden.

to score but Poland was "the lucky team" in these championships. And all England knows that Poland is a lucky team. It was Poland that beat England in the qualifications to these championships. England had many great chances to win but they couldn't score a goal. It was the first time England wasn't present in world championship soccer.

Against West Germany, the winning team—Sweden had a 2-2 tie when it was 12 minutes to go, but lost finally 4-2. One of the Swedish players was injured and this was a great disadvantage to Sweden. Against the other final team, the Netherlands, Sweden got a 0-0 standoff. Sweden became No. 5 in these championships after West Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and Brazil, which Sweden didn't play against. Last year, however, Sweden beat Brazil 1-0. Now interest in soccer in Sweden is very high.

## FINAL RESULTS

Sweden - Bulgaria — 0-0  
Sweden - Netherlands — 0-0  
Sweden - Uruguay — 3-0  
Sweden - Poland — 0-1  
Sweden - West Germany — 2-4  
Sweden - Yugoslavia — 2-1 □

Outside of Kiruna you can visit a typical Lapp village at Jukkasjarvi. Although most Laplanders have given up their nomadic way of life, a great number still retain their old customs of reindeer herding, handicrafting and colorful dress.

A wide variety of tours featuring fishing, gold panning or just sight-seeing are available from Lulea or Kiruna. A number cover the Lapland areas of Finland and Norway as well as Sweden. Some take you all the way to the North Cape. □

A smart girl is one who can hold a man at arm's length and not lose her grip on him.

\*\*\*

True love is the most illogical logic in the world.

\*\*\*

Love is the perfect antidote that floods the mind to wash away hatred, jealousy, resentment and fear.

## Viking Exploits

### Intrigue Visitors

Today's headlines may shout of new astronautical adventures to other planets, but visitors to Norway still find fascination in the Vikings' sea exploits of 1,000 years ago. Viking "hardware" was far less sophisticated than today's spacecraft but remarkably ingenious for its time, as a visit to Oslo's Viking museum shows.

The star attractions are the Gokstad and Oseberg longship named for the places on the Oslofjord where they were unearthed from ancient royal burial mounds in 1880 and 1904 respectively. The graceful Gokstad is the older ship, built about 1200 years ago and designed for deep-sea voyages with 32 oarsmen. When Leif Erikson discovered America 500 years before Columbus, he sailed in such a vessel. The Oseberg longship was built in the early 9th century for coastal journeys in the fjords. Both were preserved through the centuries by the blue clay and peat that covered them, and their discovery included jewelry, clothing, weapons and tools of a king and queen, revealing the high artistic skill of the Vikings.

The longship was the greatest invention of the Vikings and was the most seaworthy and swiftest vessel of its era. Its shallow draft and unique design enabled it to land on virtually any beach, move up rivers far inland and sail across oceans, and it became the key to everything associated with the word, Viking.

Nearby Oslo museums show other examples of Norway's continuing adventurous spirit: Fram, the polar exploration ship of Amundsen and Nansen, and Thor Heyerdahl's Kon-Tiki balsa raft, which crossed the Pacific from Peru to Polynesia. In a broader sense, the spirit is also in the works of modern Norwegians whose cultural conquests, on view in newer museums, have made Oslo "the city of the arts." □

Flowers are the sweetest thing God ever made and forgot to put a soul into.—Henry Ward Beecher

## Sweden's Lapland an Unspoiled Frontier

The summer sun lasts all through the nights in northern Sweden's Lapland.

Europe's largest untouched wilderness, Lapland is, however, easily accessible on tours out of Stockholm or even on a do-it-yourself excursion. The warming Gulf Stream currents and 24 hours of sunshine each day make summer months the ideal time for a visit.

This region of vast forests, fertile river valleys and bare glacial highlands covers one-quarter of the country and includes most of Sweden's national parks, which preserve thousands of lakes and streams for fishing, miles upon miles of hiking trails and unspoiled camping areas for the adventurous explorer.

For the not-so-venturous there are also well-developed areas offering comfortable tourist accommodations and transportation facilities.

The trip from Stockholm to Lulea, a good starting point for a northern tour, is a one-hour flight over wooded wilderness areas broken by shimmering lakes.

Train service out of Stockholm also will take you there overnight.

If you are driving, it's an interesting 600-mile trip along the coastal route E4, which is Europe's main international highway. Good facilities in cities and towns along



Lapland is Sweden's big reservoir of natural resources and the country of the Lapps and the Midnight Sun. A large proportion of the Lapps still follow their herds of reindeer on annual migrations to the mountains in the spring and back to the lowlands in the fall. (Photo from Swedish National Tourist Office)

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# NEWS FROM FINLAND

By Airi Langeste

Midsummer Night in Lapland is something that we all should get a look at. The sun was shining all through the night this year and thousands of people stayed up all night, taking part in different kinds of festivities. About 6,000 persons had gathered together at Aavasaksa and about 3,000-4,000 at Pyhatunturi. At Kilpisjärvi, on the slopes of Saana, lots of people attended the yearly Midsummer Night ski meet.

Also in the southern part of the country the sun was shining, except for a few thunder showers on Midsummer Day. This year again about 20 persons lost their lives in swimming and boating accidents during the Midsummer Holiday and the worst highway accident occurred near Rovaniemi where two cars collided head on and 5 persons were killed.

\*\*\*

President Urho Kekkonen, 73, was a patient at the Meilahti Hospital in Helsinki during the first week in July. After surgery, during which everything went very well, he stayed at the hospital the usual 10 days recovering and resting comfortably. After his hospital stay he went back to his summer residence in Naantali's Kultaranta to continue his summer holiday.

\*\*\*

The warmest time in Finland this summer was during the third week in June—at Kevo Station in Lapland the temperature was 32.8°C or 91°F. The heat wave there lasted all that week. According to the weather station the warmest day in Finland was in Turku on July 9, 1914, when the temperature rose to 97°F.

\*\*\*

The Finns' love of the theatre shows no signs of flagging. On the contrary, box-office ticket sales last year rose. Nearly 2.5 million theatre tickets were sold during the year. The professional Finnish-speaking theatres drew 2,012,832 customers and the ones giving performances in Swedish, 174,649, in addition to which dramatic groups were able to sell 251,170 tickets. These figures are included in the statistics just made public by the central association of Finnish theatrical organizations.

Attendance at regularly established theatres performing in Finnish increased by 15.5%, whereas the ones performing in Swedish suffered a loss in patronage for the second year in a row—this time by 6.9%. The overall increase in theatre attendance therefore amounted to 13.4%. The dramatic groups, which are now included in the statistics for the first time, saw their audiences increase in numbers by 10%.

## TAXES IN FINLAND

There was an unprecedented rise in taxes in Finland in the 1960s. And the turn of the decade has by no means brought relief. The progressive income tax rates have taken care of that in these inflationary times.

The cut out of the income of the average Finnish household

claimed by direct taxes increased from 1960 to 1970 from less than one-sixth to more than one-quarter. Taking into account on top of this indirect taxes (which in 1970 brought in 2.82 billion Fin Mk), the fact becomes shockingly clear: Finnish breadwinners are carrying quite a heavy tax load. The average wage-earner in this country apparently has over half his pay taken in direct and indirect taxes. The most punishing indirect tax is the so-called turnover, or sales, tax, which adds 11% to the price of every item of merchandise. □

## NOBEL COMMITTEE DEBATED

The relationship between the Storting (Norwegian Parliament) and the Nobel Peace Prize Committee formed a central theme in a recent debate in the legislature preceding the election of successors to Einar Hovdhaugen and Helge Rognlien, both of whom resigned last year in disagreement with the award of the 1973 Peace Prize to the U.S. Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger, and Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam.

The Socialist Electoral League proposed that the entire membership of the committee of five be replaced as a protest against last year's award, but this was rejected on the grounds that the committee had to be independent of the Storting. The assembly rejected the League's proposal that Storting Members could not become members of the committee. The League also wanted the Storting to have the right to criticize and debate the award of the prize, even though it could not alter the decision. The view of the majority was that any involvement by the Storting other than the election of members to the committee would result in decisions by the committee being regarded as expressions of official Norwegian policy.

The new members elected to the Nobel Peace Prize Committee were Egil Vaarvik, Member of Parliament, and Trygve Haugeland, Chief Agricultural Officer in the County of Vest-Agder.

Chairman of the Committee is Ms. Aase Wind Lionæs, Member of Parliament.

**WHAT IS THE NOBEL PRIZE?** One of the greatest honors a person can attain is to be awarded the Nobel Prize. They are given for outstanding work in science, medicine, literature and world peace.

The Nobel prizes were established by Alfred Bernhard Nobel. He was the man who invented dynamite and other powerful explosives, and he built a large industrial empire.

At his death in 1896, Nobel, who was Swedish, left \$9,200,000 to set up a fund for the Nobel prizes. The awards are given each year

## LEGOLAND

A new kind of Playland for Children—where grown-ups will have fun too

Children have always had fun in the land of Hans Christian Andersen. But a brand new attraction has just been created in the heart of the Fairytale Country at Billund, Jutland, 12 miles west of Vejle and 44 miles from the 1000-year-old town of Ribe. Many excellent hotels and romantic Fairytale Inns are within easy reach.

Legoland, a new kind of playland for children, covers about 10 acres of land, laid out as a park with lakes and water courses, all illuminated in the evenings.

The centre of Legoland is a miniature land built up with towns, villages, railways, harbors and typical old buildings, all built in such a size that children can walk in the streets with a feeling of being in a toyland.

The outer area consists of a road system where children can drive in electric cars on realistic roads in correct traffic surroundings. Here the children may obtain a Legoland driver's license as proof of their ability. Schools, as well as the police, make use of this excellent possibility of children road safety instruction.

Moreover, the park has playgrounds, both indoor and outdoor, with and without supervision where the children may find an outlet for their imagination and need for activity.

The exhibition hall in Legoland will show changing collections of models built up of Lego toys, and big panoramas illustrate some of Hans Christian Andersen's best-known Fairytales.

Quite a unique attraction in Legoland is the antique doll collection consisting of more than 300 dolls in doll-size interiors from the 16th to the 19th centuries.

In a separate building, Legoland has a children's theatre with about 200 seats for plays, ballet, films, music and marionettes.

The basic idea of Legoland is to illustrate the creative play and its importance for children and the child's development, not only to the children themselves, but also to their parents, educators and other people who work with children.

One thing is certain: Never a dull moment in Legoland!

for the most important work in five categories: physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace.

Nobel named four institutions to award the prizes. Sweden's Royal Academy of Sciences gives the awards in physics and chemistry. The Royal Caroline Medico-Surgical Institute awards the prize in medicine. The Swedish Academy, a group of scholars and writers, awards the literature prize. A committee of the Norwegian Parliament gives the prize for peace.

Each Nobel prize winner (called a Nobel laureate) receives a gold medal, a diploma and prize money. Sometimes more than one man is named for the prize, and the prize money is then divided among the winners. The money comes from investments made with the money Nobel left when he died.

Among the famous people who have won the Nobel prizes in their field of work are: ex-Prime Minister of Canada Lester B. Pearson, Winston Churchill, Theodore Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, Jane Addams, Ernest Hemmingway, Marie Curie, Albert Schweitzer, Ralph Bunche, John Steinbeck, Pearl S. Buck and Guglielmo Marconi. □

# The Alberta Cultural Heritage Council Constitution

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of the Association shall be "THE ALBERTA CULTURAL HERITAGE COUNCIL".

## ARTICLE II — OBJECTS

- (1) To make recommendations and provide information and advice to the Government regarding multicultural development in Alberta.
- (2) To give Albertans increasing awareness of their cultures and identities as a people.
- (3) To develop, through understanding of our individual ethnocultural backgrounds and sharing of our cultural diversity and richness, an appreciation of our evolving identity.
- (4) To preserve the cultural wealth of our past: the languages, arts, music and rites of our native people and the contributions of our immigrant settlers.
- (5) To stimulate the living arts—painting, dancing, music, handicrafts, theatre—and to help Alberta's writers, musicians, dramatists, dancers, etc. to national and international acceptance, appreciation and recognition.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Council shall be constituted by at least one representative from each ethnocultural group within the Province of Alberta, in accordance with the formula of the Provincial Government, and such other persons as shall be appointed by the Provincial Government, whose talents and experience would make a worthwhile contribution to the work of the Council.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

- (1) The Executive Committee of the Council shall consist of the Chairman, the First Vice-Chairman, the Second Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and Directors, not to exceed eight (8), as may be elected at a duly convened Annual Meeting of the Council; provided however that there shall be two (2) additional Directors appointed by the Executive Committee as hereinafter constituted.
- (2) The duties of the Officers shall consist of:

### (a) The Chairman shall:

- Convene and preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee.
- Be responsible for maintaining efficient administration of the affairs of the Council and shall exercise supervision over all other officers and members in the discharge of their duties in their various positions and committees.
- Be an ex-officio member of every committee set up under the provisions of this Constitution.

### (b) The First Vice-Chairman shall:

- Assume all duties and responsibilities of the Chairman in latter's absence.
- Acquaint himself with all projects and activities of the Council and shall assist the Chairman in maintaining efficient administration of the Council's affairs.
- Be responsible for planning future projects and activities to be undertaken by the Council and shall submit such plans to the Executive Committee for approval.

### (c) The Second Vice-Chairman shall:

- Assume all duties of the Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman and the First Vice-Chairman.
- Assist the Chairman and the First Vice-Chairman in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

### (d) The Secretary shall:

- Keep minutes of the meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee.
- Conduct the correspondence of the Council and shall report on the same each meeting.

### (e) The Treasurer shall:

- Deposit all monies received on or by or on behalf of the Council in a Provincial Treasury Branch or any other Chartered Bank approved by the Executive Committee.
- Keep books showing all receipts and expenditures.
- Pay all accounts approved by the Executive Committee.
- Make all approved payments by cheque drawn on the Council's account in the said Treasury Branch or any other Chartered Bank approved by the Executive Committee and each cheque shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the Chairman or a Vice-Chairman of the Council.
- Give a Financial Report at each General Meeting.

If any member of the Executive fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee upon receipt of due notice thereof he shall be deemed to have resigned his position from the Executive Committee. In such event, a meeting of the Executive shall be called at which the Chairman shall preside and another member of the Council shall be elected by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy so caused, providing always that no member of the Executive shall be deemed to have resigned his position on the Executive if he is prevented from so attending by illness or by reason of his work or business necessitating his absence.

## ARTICLE V — GENERAL MEETINGS

- (1) The first Annual General Meeting of the Council shall be held within fifteen (15) months from the date of first election of officers under this Constitution and thereafter a General Meeting of the Council shall be held at least once in every calendar year and not more than fifteen (15) months after the holding of the last preceding General Meeting.
- (2) Any five (5) Directors may call one other General Meeting of the Council whenever they think fit and on such notice as heretofore provided.

(Continued on Page 8)

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## NEWS FROM ANSGAR LUTHERAN

By Pastor Holger Madsen

Now that summer has come upon us with vacation time and its "monsoons" and our people are travelling in search of the illusive summer and its simmering sunshine, there is not a great deal to report in the way of congregational activities. But we do want to underline the fact that despite vacation time, there is still the opportunity to worship at Ansgar every Sunday. If you have guests, do bring them with you, we are more than happy to meet and to greet them, and to have them worship together with us.

Denmark's new Ambassador to Canada will be in our area in the first week of September. Mr. Henning Hjorth-Nielsen has never been in this part of Canada before, therefore we anticipate he will want to see and learn as much as possible while he is out here. He has also expressed a desire to be able to meet and greet as many of his fellow-countrymen as possible. Therefore on Sept. 5 at 8 p.m. there will be a "kaffebord" in the Dania Room at the Scandinavian Centre. This will be sponsored jointly by the Dania Society and Ansgar Church. Each lady who comes is asked to bring a plate of "something" to go with coffee. We hope many folks will take this opportunity to meet Ambassador Hjorth-Nielsen. And the larger showing we have out the more will he realize that there are also some Danes in Western Canada. □

## GREENLAND - Denmark's Scenic Arctic Island

A few practical hints for prospective visitors to the newest adventure in travel.

Agreed that Greenland is the biggest island in the world. Agreed that Greenland is a part of the Kingdom of Denmark. But this does not necessarily mean that it is as easy to travel around on Greenland as it is in Hans Christian Andersen's island of Funen or along the Danish Riviera from Wonderful Copenhagen to Hamlet's town of Elsinore.

We might just as well admit it: It is pretty complicated to move around on Greenland. Many places can actually only be reached by dog-sleigh or helicopter even during the summer. Most of the fjords are frozen 9 months a year except the Discobay, accessible 5 months a year.

But that, of course, is what makes this island one of the most fascinating places in the world to visit, its unspoiled greatness and its scenery.

Let's give some facts before you make the final plans for your visit to Greenland.

Greenland is seven times larger than the British Isles or about 840,000 sq. miles. The greater part of Greenland is situated to the north of the Arctic Circle. Along the coast there are granite mountains up to 12,247 feet high and behind them, in the interior, the immense Ice Age glacier measuring 708,290 sq. miles in area and up to 1.8 miles in thickness.

## Danish Actress in Local Film

Rainbow Productions (Alberta) has just released a new short film titled "Celebration". It is directed by Edmontonian Robert Conway (who is still collecting prizes and awards from all around the world for his last film, "Skin Deep", also produced by Rainbow).

A total Canadian production, "Celebration" already has received an extremely favourable response from previews in and around Edmonton.

Leading actress Ester Jacobsen put on an exceptional fine performance in her first leading part in a film. Mrs.

Jacobsen is Danish and came from Copenhagen where she lived 60 years before coming to Canada, settling in Edmonton.

There is imaginative cinematography by Curt Clausen and original music scored by Curt Watts and Grant Horrocks. Fourteen minutes in length, the film is presently available in 16 mm color.

No distribution outlet has yet been found but information can be obtained by writing to: Rainbow Productions, 8015 - 95A St., Edmonton, Alta. T6C 3Y1. □



Mrs. Ester A. Jacobsen stars in "Celebration".

Even if no visa is required for entering Greenland and no fundamental permission is needed to go there (except for some military bases that are out of bounds), you should make detailed preparations before going there as there are extremely few tourist accommodations available. Remember that a trip to Greenland is not available in Greenland. In most cases you will have to sleep in dormitories or in modest private rooms. Advance reservations are therefore necessary. If you plan to travel on your own, we suggest you write directly to the Ministry for Greenland, Hauser-

Living a good life is like shaving . . . no matter how good you do it today you still have to do it again tomorrow. \*\*\*

The determined man finds a way, the other finds an excuse or alibi.

gade 3, Copenhagen K, regarding local transportation and accommodations.

By far the easiest, however, would be to take one of the chartered SAS flights from Copenhagen. The tourist program covering travel in Northwest Greenland offers same itineraries. □



Greenland, Denmark's scenic arctic island is the newest adventure in travel. (Photo: Danish National Tourist Office)

## From Bishop's Citadel to Metropolis

In the heart of old Copenhagen locally grown vegetables and flowers and freshly-caught fish are sold—from open stalls, as they have been throughout the centuries. The statue of a mailclad warrior on a rearing horse towers on its pedestal above the picturesque booths: it represents Bishop Absalon, who in the year 1167 founded the citadel around which the first Copenhagen grew.

The warrior Bishop looks across a picturesque canal to the centre of Copenhagen, where, on the ruins of his citadel there stands the castle of Christianborg, the seat of the Government. If the Bishop looks straight ahead he sees the towers of several of Copenhagen's fine old churches and the dragon spire of her elegant Renaissance Stock Exchange. If he glances a little to the right, he sees some of the city's museums. He seems proudly to watch over these centres of government, trade, religious life and culture in the capital he founded 800 years ago, now a metropolis, the capital of the kingdom of Denmark and a city of peculiar beauty with an atmosphere all its own.

There is nothing to be seen in Copenhagen from the time of Absalon except the ruins underneath Christianborg Castle. Fires, wars and bombardments have destroyed the rest. The oldest parts of the city date from the time of Christian IV. This King, artist and architect in one, who lived from 1577 to 1648, built the Renaissance Castle of Rosenborg and laid out its garden, which is now a public park. He also built the Round Tower, up which the Russian Czar, Peter the Great, drove in coach and four, in 1716. Denmark owes many other buildings in Copenhagen to Christian IV. □

## URGENT APPEAL

An urgent appeal by the Unitarian Service Committee—Edmonton Branch has been sent out.

- WARM CLOTHING for adults and children, with at least one year's wear left in them.
- SHEETS discarded due to worn areas (cotton or flannelette).
- PILLOW CASES discarded due to worn areas (cotton or flannelette).
- BLANKETS discarded due to worn areas (cotton or flannelette).
- TOWELS discarded due to worn areas (cotton or flannelette).
- DRAPES faded and worn
- BEDSPREADS faded and worn
- LARGE SAFETY PINS

These items, which you may be discarding, are urgently needed by the volunteers to use for making clothing and quilts for families in desperate need—particularly in refugee camps.

Any and all donations of these items will be sincerely appreciated. Please call the Unitarian Service Committee at 477-8958 NOW!

The Unitarian Service Committee of Canada is a non-denominational, non-racial and non-political organization working in the field of relief and rehabilitation.

Help goes to the most needy irrespective of colour, creed or nationality.

PLEASE HELP.

Going to church on Sunday does not make you a Christian any more than sleeping in a garage over night would make a car out of you.

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# NORTHERN LIGHTS

By Shirley Olson

The past while has been busy here in our Lodge at Grande Prairie with functions such as a "Past Presidents' Ball", May 17th Celebration and a Midsummer Night frolic.

Our members were saddened by the recent death of Mrs. Elizabeth Olson. Sincere sympathy to her family is extended by all.

Two of our members, President Magnus Evenrude and John Pederson, attended the Sons of Norway Fourth District 36th

Biennial Convention held on June 6-8 at Fargo, North Dakota. Now our sights are set for the Supreme Convention this month at the Banff Springs Hotel.

Although vacation time is on us, our Lodge is busy planning for our contribution to the parade of the County Fair in Grande Prairie this month. Also our "food" booth in the new position on the fair grounds has been active; catering to the 4H and horse show.

Have a safe and happy holiday. □

(Continued from Page 6)

## HERITAGE COUNCIL

- (3) The Executive Committee shall, on the written requisition of at least one-fifth (1/5) of the membership of the Council forthwith proceed to convene a meeting of the Council. Any meeting convened under this paragraph by the requisitionists shall be convened in the same manner as that in which other meetings of the Council are convened by the Directors.
- (4) The minutes of a General Meeting shall be deemed to be conclusive following approval of these minutes by Council at the next meeting.
- (5) Fourteen (14) days' notice at least (inclusive of the day on which the notice is given) specifying the place, the day and the hour of the meeting and in case of special business, the general nature of such business must be given. All members are entitled to receive notice. However, the accidental omission to give notice to or the non-receipt by a member shall not invalidate any resolution passed or any of the proceedings at any such meeting.
- (6) In urgent matters, as determined by the Executive Committee, a General Meeting may be convened upon shorter notice if the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of all the members of the Council is obtained.
- (7) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business; a quorum shall be one-third (1/3) of the voting members personally present.
- (8) The Chairman, with the consent of the meeting, may adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, as the meeting shall determine; and no notice of reconvening of such adjourned meeting need be given.
- (9) All resolutions and decisions made by the Council except for the election of Officers and Directors, shall be by majority vote in a manner to be determined by the Executive Committee.

### ARTICLE VI — EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- (1) Notice of the time and place of each regular meeting of the Executive shall be mailed at least six (6) free days before the time appointed for such meeting.
- (2) A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- (3) The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie vote of the Executive Committee.

## Hotel Porter — Your Friend In Need

It's only the second city of your European tour and already you've got a problem.

That expensive handcut vase you bought for your wife is missing and it suddenly dawns on you that you left it on the airport bus in the first city on your tour.

This can be an unnerving experience for a Canadian. But a veteran European traveller knows just what you should do: Turn your problem over to the hall porter.

Most good European hotels employ a Clef d'Or member as a chief hall porter or concierge.

### GOOD LINGUISTS

These men are living encyclopedias of local information and international travel. They speak at least German and English

in addition to their native language. They are one-stop sources of a wide variety of services and information which most Canadians think they have to seek out for themselves.

Take that lost gift, for example: The hall porter knows just what to do. He calls a fellow hall porter in the visitor's last hotel. His associate locates it and forwards it by the fastest route. There is no direct charge for this help, but tips are customary. It is a courtesy fellow Clef d'Or members provide between themselves.

The parcel arrives normally within 24 hours. If you tried to track it down on your own you could run up a large telephone bill and would probably wait several days for the parcel, or abandon

it.

Often a traveller wants to make a side trip out of the city he is visiting. Canadians usually do this by struggling around in a bus or railroad station trying to get a reservation to fit their timetable. Yet their hall porter probably has all the bus and train schedules and is happy to arrange the fastest and most convenient connections and get the tickets required.

Clef d'Or members take pride in filling travellers' needs, be it attending sports events, theatre going, night clubbing or just plain walking. He has connections that can get you the best night club tables and theatre tickets. He will arrange for temporary membership in golf clubs, gambling casinos and special interest organizations.

He'll describe the best sightseeing routes and steer guests away from areas where they might have unpleasant experiences.

In Europe, he is senior of two types of porters. His juniors, the luggage porters, concentrate on carrying bags. Hall porters all wear crossed gold keys embroidered on their lapels.

### WHITE BADGE

The chief hall porter and Clef d'Or member is distinguished by a small white badge with crossed gold keys on a white background. He has an international list of addresses of all fellow members throughout Europe and a much smaller number in Africa, Asia and North America. He also has a list of associate members who are in travel-related businesses that co-operate with Clef d'Or.

I first learned about Clef d'Or in Copenhagen. Twice I had attempted to take the hydrofoil boat from there to Malmo, Sweden, and twice I failed to get on board because all tickets had been sold before I arrived.

I expressed my frustration to Andy Andersen, chief hall porter of the SAS Royal Hotel where I was staying. He offered to get me seats anytime I wanted. I accepted his offer and next day he reserved me one.

When I arrived at the dock, I showed the paper he gave me and was admitted past a line of people who had to wait 30 minutes for the next boat just as I was forced to do in my previous two attempts.

### REGULAR DUTIES

When I thanked Andersen the next day, I told him I wouldn't expect such service in a hotel in Canada. He then explained that this was only a tiny part of the kind of help he and his assistants provide as part of their regular duties. Outstanding service, he said, was required of all Clef d'Or members.

Clef d'Or requires five years of apprenticeship under an active member, followed by five years on-the-job experience as a junior hall porter. Following this, the candidate must find two members who will sponsor him into Clef d'Or. Those who are accepted, become qualified to hold the position of chief hall porter in any hotel. □

The geography teacher asked Bobby a question about the English channel. "I don't know," answered Bobby. "We don't get that channel on our television set."

\*\*\*

### DRIFTWOOD

Maude O. Cook

It is not the seconds the clock ticks off,  
Nor the days as they come and go,  
That determines our course on the stream of life,  
But whether we drift or row.



Scandinavian representatives to the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council: Swedish John Cumberbatch, Danish Per Nielsen, Icelandic Margaret Cameron, The Hon. Horst Schmid, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation, Norwegian Astrid Hope and Finnish Arvi Liimatainen.

### ARTICLE VII — COMMITTEES

- (1) The Council may establish Committees to deal with any matters that may affect the affairs of the Cultural Heritage Council. The Executive Committee may constitute any further Committees that they deem necessary.

### ARTICLE VIII — ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- (1) Officers (but not Directors) of the Executive Committee, shall be persons who are delegates from ethnocultural groups and not appointees of the government.
- (2) The Chairman, First Vice-Chairman and Second Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a one-year term and shall be permitted to succeed themselves. The immediate Past Chairman shall remain as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.
- (3) Whenever the Chairman is from Northern Alberta, The First Vice-Chairman shall be from Southern Alberta, and vice versa.
- (4) Each Director shall be elected for a two-year term but with respect to the initial Executive Committee, one-half (1/2) shall be elected for a one-year term and one-half (1/2) for a two-year term and each year thereafter, one-half (1/2) of the Executive Committee shall be elected.
- (5) Following the election of the Officers and Directors, each year, the said Officers and Directors shall meet and appoint two (2) additional Directors, each of whom must be from an ethnocultural group not then represented on the Executive Committee.
- (6) The Officers and Directors at each annual meeting shall, if requested by a majority of the meeting, be elected by secret ballot.

### ARTICLE IX — POWER TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

- (1) Upon giving one month's notice in writing to the Secretary of the Council, any member or group of members may by motion at a General Meeting of the Council apply to have the rules herein contained amended by the addition to an existing rule or addition of a new rule or rules, which upon being passed by two-thirds (2/3) majority of all members of the Council then present and in good standing, shall be deemed to form part of the rules herein contained.
- (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, the constitution of the Council may, during the fifteen month period following the adoption of this constitution, be amended by a simple majority of members of the Council then present and in good standing. □

# TIME TO TAKE STOCK

When was the last time you took stock of your insurance, your investments your general financial situation?

If you're like most of us, it was too long ago. And times change. Your needs change. NOW is a good time to take stock and your Lutheran Life representative can help. He's fully qualified to assess your family financial situation today—and help you look at tomorrow.

Give him a call and ask about planning financial security for your family. Go ahead.

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## Kitchen Corner

### COOKED OUT

I'm tired of eating,  
And tired of cooking,  
Tired of planning,  
And recipe looking.

I can't seem to find  
A wholesome treat  
My family considers  
Fit to eat!

\*\*\*

If members of your family have lagging appetites perk them up with this—

### FRESH VEGETABLE TRAY

Along with fresh carrot strips, celery sticks, cauliflower in bite-size flowers, place thinly sliced cucumber sticks on the tray. Use a sour cream dip, with curry added.

\*\*\*

For Something different and delicious try—

### MEDLEY OF VEGETABLES

1 cup onion rings  
1 1/2 cups celery strips  
1 1/2 cups carrot strips  
2 cups fresh or cooked green beans  
3/4 cup green pepper strips  
2 cups tomatoes (canned or fresh)  
4 tbsp. butter  
1 tsp. salt  
3 tbsp. minute tapioca

Mix and put into a tightly covered casserole. Bake at 350° for 1 1/2 hours.

\*\*\*

### COFFEE CAKE

This coffee cake can be made with blueberry or cherry pie filling.

1 cup margarine or butter  
1 cup sugar

3 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
2 cups flour  
1/2 cup chopped nuts

Cream together margarine and sugar. Add eggs one at a time, beating after each one. Add vanilla and beat. Add flour and chopped nuts. Put 2/3 mixture in a 9"x13" greased pan. Place the pie filling on top and then drop the remaining margarine in small dots on top.

Bake at 350° for 55 minutes.

### SCANDINAVIAN RECIPE FOR AUGUST

#### ICELANDIC ROSETTES

By Shirley Thorsteinson

Fat for deep frying  
1 cup sifted all-purpose flour  
2 eggs

1 tbsp. sugar

1/4 tsp. salt

1 cup milk

1 tsp. vanilla

Icing sugar

Heat fat in deep fryer to 375°. Sift, then measure flour. Beat eggs until light, add sugar and salt, mixing until blended. Add flour, milk and vanilla, beat until smooth. Heat rosette iron in preheated fat for 2 minutes. Drain excess fat from iron; dip iron in batter to within 1/4" from top of iron. Dip at once into hot fat. Deep-fry until golden brown, about 1/2 min. Lift out, tip upside down to drain. Push off with fork. Place on cake rack with paper placed underneath to catch drips. Reheat iron one minute before making next rosette. Sprinkle with icing sugar. Yields 60 rosettes.

□

discotheque at the Linnanmaki Fun Fair.

FSTS also will advise the best places to shop for Finnish designs, where to find the student cafes or where to go for a swim and sun bath. If you've more time they'll guide you on a waterway trip to Tampere and Turku or a tour above the Arctic Circle to Lapland.

Denmark recommends a number of ways for young people to enjoy that fairytale land from a motorboat trip through Copenhagen's old canals, a visit to one of the many youth restaurants by candle light and guitar music, or a roller coaster ride in its world-famous Tivoli Gardens to a flying trip to Jutland's popular International Student Centre.

The Centre, a lakefront, modernized, old manor house offers reasonable accommodations, social activities and cultural events for the young people from all over the world who gather there each summer.

The bicycle — Denmark's national vehicle — provides other possibilities for inexpensive summer touring. Organized seven-day cycle tours in different areas of the country are priced from \$69 to \$75, including bike rental, youth hostel accommodations and meals.

One of Norway's biggest summer attractions is its International Jazz Festival from July 30 to Aug. 4 in Molde on the fjord-filled west coast. A haven for young visitors, the festival city extends its hotel capacity by operating a special jazz campsite with low-cost tenting facilities.

Besides presenting top performers from the United States and Europe, the festival features poetry reading, folk and ballad singers, classical music and theatre performances.

Excursions to the tiny islands surrounding Molde (the City of Roses) offer an opportunity to compete for the largest seafish catch.

The Swedes welcome the young set at their student reception centres in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Lund, which will help you find reservations at university dormitories which are transformed into "summer hotels" offering two or three-bed rooms, for about \$3.00

## TIME

Evelyn Fjeldsted

Time is the one great friend of man  
Drawing back the portals of each day.

Previewing man's eternity,  
Time directs him on his way.

Time heals all the wounds of man,  
Gently veiling every scar;  
Teaching by experience,  
The way of peace—the way of war.

Time, the truest friend of man,  
Through seeming harsh, is always kind.

Even memories too keen to bear,  
Are dimmed by time in every mind.

daily per person. The reception centres also will fill you in on youth activities and excursions.

Almost anywhere you end up in Sweden you'll meet other young people enjoying themselves at the local Folk Park, an essential part of the Swedish summer scene. In large cities and towns they feature top musical and dramatic entertainment, but even the smallest village boasts its version of the open-air Folk Park.

Your summer may not be long enough to take in all of Scandinavia's young - at heart attractions.

(Continued from Page 3)

## IMPRESSIONS

our plane landed at Fornebu airport at Oslo, we could see many of the homes along the Oslofjord. A lady remarked how "koselig" it looked. She had been living for years in Canada and other places, but had never found anything like it. "Koselig" is a word that is hard to translate because it involves many things. The word "well-being" covers part of it. If you sit with friends and have a cup of coffee (and maybe some waffles), then it is "koselig". The famous

Norse hospitality plays a great part in making it "koselig". As far as the location of a home is concerned, it makes it more "koselig" if it is placed in a sheltered place, such as maybe in between trees. It also helps if you don't worry too much about the "almighty dollar" and the rat race we are apt to get caught up in nowadays. Most stores in Norway close at 2 o'clock on Saturday and I believe at 4 or maybe 5 weekdays, but still people have time to do their shopping and it is obvious this gives many people more leisure hours. The people in Norway are among the longest living in the world, and that is because they know how to live.

I have been writing this article at the Calgary Stampede where I met a lot of Scandinavians. One couple came from Drammen, Norway, and were soon to leave after a holiday in Canada. The man said Norway is a real "Molbuland" (backward country) compared to Canada. We decided that in many ways it seems so and the reason is that Norway has so much less to work with and lacks the natural resources Canada has. A young Swede talked to me about culture and how much older the Scandinavian culture is than its counterpart in Canada but we agreed that with all the other advantages Canada has, culture will look after itself.

In conclusion I shall say that when I saw many of my old friends in Norway, I felt they were lucky because they didn't have to become immigrants. The way I see it, an immigrant becomes rootless. In a way he is not completely happy in his adopted homeland and he cannot go back to where he came from. He will not get settled any more. As for myself, I hope I can go back and visit Norway more often because that means complete happiness.

## Scandinavian Summers Suit Young Travellers

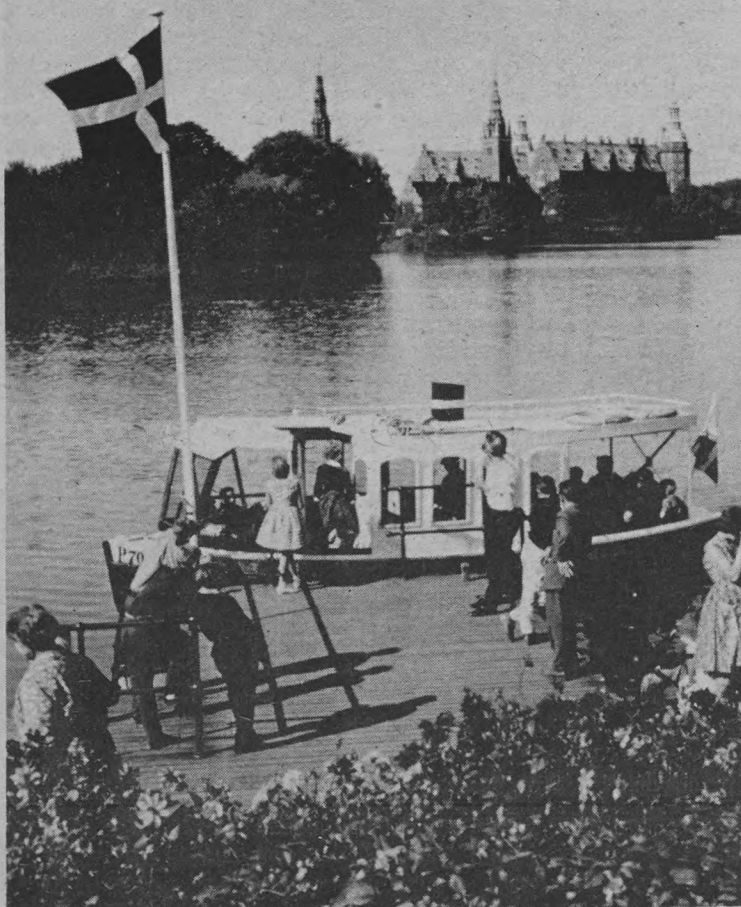
Young - at - heart Scandinavia has a soft spot in its heart for the young in years. In summer months, especially, it offers a tempting array of low-cost airfares, reasonable accommodations and youth-oriented tours for the under-23 traveler.

Maintaining one of Europe's best networks of youth hostels and student hotels, Scandinavia can bring the cost of lodgings and meals to a modest level. The youth hostels and hotels vary in type of accommodations from the usual dormitory room arrangement, to family-size rooms of three to five beds, to higher-priced single and double rooms, but all are clean, comfortable and carefully supervised.

While all Scandinavian countries make young travelers feel welcome, each does so with its own special flair.

In Helsinki, Finland's capital, a number of student clubs offer open house parties, jazz evenings and discotheque dancing.

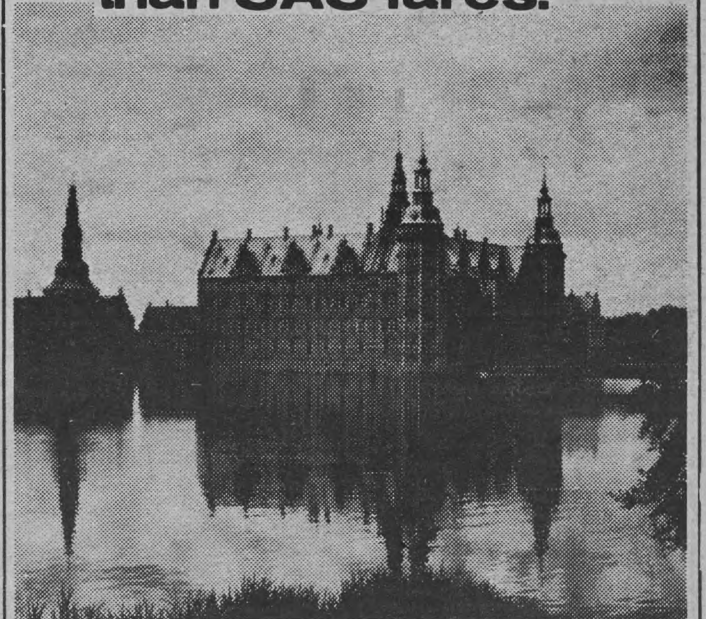
The Finland Student Travel Service (FSTS) will offer bargain tour suggestions to fit any schedule. They'll tell you how to enjoy a one to two-day stay in Helsinki, starting with a 45-minute, 25¢ ride on streetcar 3T, which offers a sightseeing commentary in English, and ending with a nighttime visit to the



Young people ready for a boat ride on the lake at Denmark's glamorous Frederiksborg Castle, Hillerød.

# Don't wait!

You won't find lower fares to Scandinavia than SAS fares.



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## Modern Norway

A major work on the development of the New Norway has recently been published by Clarendon Press, Oxford, England (The Oxford University Press). The 483-page book is written by British historian T. K. Derry and is entitled "A History of Modern Norway, 1814-1972". It starts with Norway's separation from Denmark and the framing of the Norwegian Constitution in 1814

and ends with the rejection of membership in the European Economic Community in the advisory referendum of September 1972.

The author presents the book as a study of the growth of a small nation with aspirations toward political democracy, egalitarian social reforms, economic progress and cultural achievement. In writing the book T. K. Derry has had in mind readers to whom Norway and the Norwegian language are likely to be

unfamiliar. Economic, social and cultural aspects are given considerable weight within an overall political framework. The emigration to the United States is dealt with in some detail.

T. K. Derry has written extensively on Norwegian affairs. Among his earlier books are "The Campaign in Norway" (1952), dealing with the war in 1940, and "A Brief History of Norway" (1967). □

(Continued from Page 1)

## VANCOUVER SWEDES

Columbia, Strangers Entertain-  
ed. (2)

Rather than attempting to duplicate the work of these two writers, this article will concentrate on the current activities of the community, particularly those of the various clubs and associations which are the formal expression of the Swedish consciousness in the city. In this way, some impression may be gained of the survival of their culture and identity.

One of the oldest of the Swedish clubs in Vancouver is the Nornan chapter of the Vasa Order of America. Originally founded in 1912, it faded away during World War I, was re-established in 1922, and has been continuously active since then. At present (1972) the chapter has 225 members, many of them long-time constituents of the city's Swedish community. Included also are members from the second generation and some younger people in the chapter. Meetings are held once a month and are conducted in English.

Vasa was originally conceived as a means of providing aid to individuals of the Swedish community who found themselves in economic difficulties as a result of illness or a death in the family. As the social security benefits available in Canada have become more substantial, such financial support has become less important, but the Nornan chapter still retains an interest in its members' welfare. Those who fall ill receive flowers and personal visits, thus maintaining the ties of community within the membership. Indeed, this is one very important aspect of Vasa's existence, since it provides a framework through which many older members of the Swedish community have been encouraged to remain in contact with each other and also with other Swedish communities. For example, one of the Nornan chapter's activities is a concert staged annually at the Peace Arch in co-operation with Vasa chapters from the northern state of Washington.

The Nornan chapter receives financial support from its Ladies' Auxiliary, a small group of about thirty-five active members which meets once a month. Its primary purposes are to raise money for Nornan and for one or two Canadian charities. In addition, the auxiliary is attempting to compile archives of information relating to the history of Vancouver's Swedish community and is trying to acquire heritage items associated with the community's past.

A second chapter of the Vasa Order is located in New Westminster. Called the Valhalla chapter, it was formed in 1930 and has approximately eighty-five members, of whom the majority are older and of the first generation. Seeking to attract younger people, the chapter decided, in December 1971, to conduct meetings in English rather than Swedish, but this change has not yet had any noticeable effect.

The activities of the chapter are mostly of a social nature—picnics, a harvest festival, or perhaps an auction of homemade items donated by the members. It is felt that, in this way, people are able to come together and maintain friendly contact with each other, retaining a sense of their identity and personal history which would otherwise be lost.

Ties with other Swedish communities are strengthened by the activities which are associated with the Vasa District Lodge. A convention of the chapters of the Pacific Northwest was hosted by the Nornan chapter in Vancouver on the first weekend of September, 1972, drawing together representatives from Oregon, Washington and Montana, as well as those from British Columbia.

The District Lodges in turn help to promote cultural exchanges between North America and Sweden, involving groups of twelve to eighteen young performers. The selection of delegates from North America and the itinerary of groups visiting from Sweden is decided at this level. It is also at this level that scholarship funds are administered—fifteen grants being available each year to children of Vasa members. As well, every fourth year, a post-graduate scholarship is awarded for study in Sweden or in Norway. As members of the District Lodge, members of the local Vasa chapters are eligible for these scholarships, as well as participation in the cultural exchange programs, acting as hosts to visiting groups from Sweden or contributing talent to be sent to Sweden.

Another Vancouver group with a relatively long history is the Swedish Canadian Club, a local association formed in 1930. Most of its 180 members are over fifty years of age and are first-generation immigrants. An average of six meetings is held every winter and English is spoken throughout. The club's main goal is to provide social activities for its members, such as dances and a banquet, and its most ethnic undertaking is the annual Christmas dinner held in late November. Featuring traditional foods, this latter event is very much enjoyed by older members. Besides sponsoring social functions, the Swedish Canadian Club also provides a \$200 bursary for a first-year university student and a scholarship of \$250 to a second-year student. Recipients of either award must have at least one parent of Swedish descent and must have resided in British Columbia for the preceding six months. At this writing, the membership is planning to erect a memorial to the first immigrants from Sweden, commemorating their hard work and their contribution to Vancouver. These projects, however, are secondary to the club's main function, that of sponsoring social activities.

One of the most recently formed Swedish groups in Vancouver is Härjedalsgillet. As the name implies, this club's purpose is "to keep alive the cultural heritage of Härjedalen, which is one of Sweden's twenty-four provinces". (3) In keeping with this purpose, only those who are connected with Härjedalen by ancestry, by marriage or by personal activity are eligible for membership.

Since its inception in March, 1958, Härjedalsgillet's membership has grown to 300, half of whom reside in the Vancouver area, with the rest spread across Canada and the United States. Once a

year all members are invited to meet at a Härjedalsträff (convention) and local constituents have the opportunity to see each other more often at the meetings held approximately every three months.

Like other Swedish organizations, Härjedalsgillet has both social and benevolent goals, and attempts to help members where need may arise. Culturally, substantial efforts have been made to retain ties with the home province in Sweden. At the 1963 annual meeting in Vancouver, it was decided to honour those formerly from Härjedalen who emigrated to Canada and the United States near the turn of the century. The memorial, a red granite stone, flanked by two stone benches, was placed in Gammelgården, a small park in Sveg, Härjedalen. The sum of \$2,500 was raised by subscription to pay for the monument, and in 1965 ninety-nine Vancouver members flew to Sveg to take part in the unveiling celebrations.

A second charter flight to Sweden was organized in 1970 with 153 members participating, at which time a donation of 300 books about Canada and the United States was made to the Sveg library. In addition to this group contribution, a personal donation of books, valued at more than \$200 was made by Olof Seaholm. These volumes treat such areas as the history, literature and general culture of the two North American nations.

In 1972 a third charter was arranged, this time bringing 114 Swedish persons, mainly from Härjedalen, to British Columbia. In Vancouver, a banquet was held in honour of the visitors, among whom were the mayor of Sveg and his wife. Thus the Härjedalar not only look back to their homeland and their regional identity, but also attempt to interpret their new home to those who remain in Sweden.

The club is hoping to organize other flights in the future to Sweden thus helping Härjedalsgillet members to maintain close contact with their homeland, contact which fosters good relations and encourages understanding between the old country and the new.

The association most concerned with the presentation of a Swedish heritage in Vancouver is the Svenska Kulturföreningen or Swedish Cultural Society. Replacing an earlier organization (the Lekstugan) it was formed in 1951 to keep Swedish traditions, customs and language alive and is affiliated with the Association for Swedish Culture in Foreign Countries, a worldwide organization based in Sweden. At present the group has thirty-five active members, a few of whom are recent arrivals from Sweden although most have spent their lives here or are Canadian born. As do the other Swedish clubs, the Cultural Society convenes monthly, but, unlike the others, its meetings are conducted in Swedish to encourage use of the language. After the business part of the meeting, films about Sweden are shown or a speaker on Swedish traditions may be featured, followed by the serving of coffee and Swedish refreshments. Thus, the society's energies are centred on the culture they are trying to maintain. Members are able to borrow from the society's small library of Swedish books, and there is also a ladies' group to work with traditional handicrafts, mainly needlework. With sufficient demand, members also offer after-school children's activities to encourage them to speak Swedish. The society would be happy to sponsor a mixed chorus, but at

(Continued on Page 11)



Cecilia Janse, Stockholm's Lake Queen and official hostess for the Swedish capital.

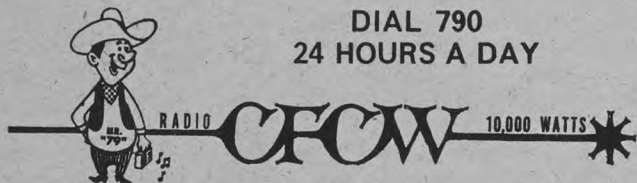
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(2) Vancouver, British Columbia Centennial 1971 Committee, 1971.

(3) Mrs. Carol Black, letter to the author, September 18, 1972.



(Continued from Page 10)

**VANCOUVER SWEDES**

present there is insufficient support.

The club also sponsors the celebration of some old Swedish festivals of which the best known is the Lucia Fest, held on or near December 13. All members of the Swedish community are invited and it is popular with both children and adults. The central figure in the celebration, the Lucia bride, is chosen from one of the society's families, and the procession and ceremony are rehearsed during the preceding month. The program also includes traditional Swedish Christmas songs, and a short play presented in Swedish by children. At the conclusion of the entertainment, the traditional Lucia cookies are served and space is cleared around the Christmas tree for children's dances in which everyone may participate. This appears to be one of the few events in the Swedish community that encourages children and young people to participate and retain awareness of their ethnic heritage.

At Easter there is a smaller traditional gathering featuring eggs, and decorations made of feathers and new leaves.

On or near April 30 a celebration is held to mark **Valborgsmässoafton** (the Swedish equivalent of Walpurgisnacht). In accordance with tradition, a large bonfire is lit and Swedish spring songs are sung. In 1972, participants were also offered a smorgasbord and a fashion show. Once again, all interested people are welcome to attend this celebration.

One of the most active groups preserving Swedish culture is, as well, perhaps its most cosmopolitan—the **Bellman Male Chorus**. Affiliated with an American organization of Swedish male choirs, the chorus was formed in 1946 to help keep Swedish culture alive, but has now evolved to a point where only a half of its songs are Swedish. Most of the numbers, whether in Swedish or English, are either traditional or folk songs with more recent additions from such sources as **The Sound of Music**. The chorus holds weekly practices throughout the winter and receives many requests to sing at homes for the old and occasionally at the Jewish Centre or the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Anyone interested in singing is welcome to join, and the chorus includes members from a variety of ethnic backgrounds such as Italian, Ukrainian or English. In fact, the current president speaks with a noticeable Scottish accent but it is said that he sings Swedish as well as anyone and understands most of what is going on. Because of the appeal of the activity, Swedish culture in the area of singing has now spread beyond its own ethnic group, and only one-half of its twenty-six members are of Swedish descent.

Another facet of traditional Swedish culture in Vancouver is folk dancing. Originally there was a separate Swedish group in the city but due to difficulties with small membership and poor leadership it was decided to join with a Danish group (with similar problems) to form a Scandinavian Dance Club. Anyone interested in the traditional dances of Scandinavia is welcome to attend the weekly practices. The winter of 1971-72 about one-third of the membership was of Swedish origin and average attendance was about twenty-five, although a total of sixty persons attended over the season. This activity appeals primarily to younger individuals and most of the members were

under the age of thirty-five. Although only formed in January, 1971, the club has received many requests to perform at various functions with an international or ethnic orientation, such as international exhibitions and trade fairs.

Like other groups of Scandinavian immigrants, the Swedish community has been particularly concerned with providing benefits for the sick and old. This concern led to the formation of an association to raise money within the Swedish community for a rest home for older members. After much work the **Swedish Canadian Rest Home** was opened in 1948. In 1966, a new wing was added so that the home can now accommodate 100 guests, in single or double rooms, some with private bath. It is not necessary to be of Swedish origin to be admitted, and those who are ill cannot be accepted because there are no facilities for continued medical care. Because the majority of the guests have no connection with Sweden, particular Swedish traditions would have no significance, and little effort is made to observe them in the Home. While the guests do contribute to the maintenance of the Home through monthly payments, a large portion of the expense is met with money raised by the Swedish Canadian Rest Home Association. Although anyone may contribute money and become a member, only those of Swedish descent may vote or hold office on the Board of Directors.

As well as seeking donations, the Association engages in various fund-raising activities such as a seal drive at Christmas. The facilities provided are most attractive but as costs rise it becomes increasingly difficult to balance the budget and still maintain the quality of the service. The magnitude of this effort undertaken by the Swedish community gives an indication of its potential strength. Moreover, any inquiry about activities of the Swedish community of Vancouver is almost certain to bring out remarks about the Swedish Canadian Rest Home touched with justifiable pride.

Most of the groups and clubs mentioned so far work together through a body called the **Scandinavian Social Club** to sponsor bingo two nights a week. (4) Members of the various participating clubs work at the games and the proceeds are turned over to the Swedish Charitable Association. This body, also composed of representatives from the participating clubs, distributes some money back to these groups according to how many of their members have been working at the bingo, and donates the rest to a variety of charities. As well as contributing to such groups as the Heart Foundation and the Salvation Army, the Charitable Association also sponsors two soccer teams in Vancouver's juvenile leagues, and will help out individuals who are in need of assistance. What might at first appear to be a rather inward-looking venture is actually making contributions in several areas of Canadian society.

Members of the Swedish community are able to keep abreast of the activities taking place by reading **The Swedish Press**. A non-political paper published in Vancouver, the **Press** dates back to 1932. In order to make material from these back issues more accessible, **Olof Seaholm** has

volunteered to prepare an index and is working on the project as of this writing.

The paper is published twice a month and has a circulation of approximately 1,000, half of which is in the immediate Vancouver area. The other 500 copies go to other parts of British Columbia, Alberta, the United States and Sweden. To serve its readers in the interior and on the prairies, the **Press** has an assistant editor in Alberta and receives news items from five correspondents in British Columbia. In order to maintain links with Sweden, about half of each issue is devoted to news from the home country, and some advertising is received from Sweden as well. This aspect of the paper is made more important by the fact that it is very hard to find newspapers or magazines from Sweden in Vancouver's newsstands. To encourage retention of the language, half of each issue is in Swedish. The rest appears in English in the hope that those who are of Swedish descent, but no longer speak or read the language, will remain interested in the Swedish community. Where possible, the paper carries literary items written locally in Swedish and from time to time presents poems by **Sven Seaholm** and **G. Leander Carlson**. It is, however, felt in some quarters that even more could be done by managing editor **Sture Wermee**, especially concerning news and circulation on the prairies.

At the present time there is no Swedish representation in the other mass media, although there was a Swedish hour presented on Vancouver's ethnic radio station during the summer of 1972. The program carried announcements of interest to the Swedish community and news items from both Canada and Sweden. Advertisements were played in both languages but the rest of the program was in Swedish. Forty minutes were devoted to music, which varied from oldtime fiddle and dance music through folksongs and ballads to choirs and selections from the classics, all relating to Sweden as much as possible within the Canadian content rules. The program was very well received within the Swedish community but was discontinued at the end of September, 1972, due to a disagreement between the producer and the station over advertising policy.

As far as the Swedish language itself is concerned, there has been enough interest shown over the last twenty years to permit the Vancouver School Board to offer courses in Beginning and Intermediate Conversational Swedish as part of its evening program of academic and recreational courses.

Although interest remains strong in some areas of activity, it has definitely dropped in others. Earlier this century, the Swedish community formed a Lutheran congregation which was served by a Swedish-speaking pastor. Now, many of the original members are dead and the surviving Augustana Lutheran congregation is much like any other within the Lutheran Church. Only at Christmas is an effort made to revive Swedish traditions with a special service held for the old people.

Interest in community picnics and outdoor activities has also declined. Where there was once enough such activity to justify the development of Swedish Park (opened in 1922), outdoor functions have become so sporadic that its operation by the Swedish community is no longer financially sound. For example, at one time, many people would come to

celebrate **Midsummer's Eve** in the park in traditional Swedish fashion but as time passed, interest waned until the event was discontinued several years ago. Thus in the summer of 1972 it was decided to lease the park commercially and it will now be rented to any group wishing to use the facilities. These facilities consist of a hall with a kitchen, bandstand and substantial grassy area, which is dwarfed by a cloverleaf of the freeway immediately behind it. In contrast, the Swedish Hall, built two years later in 1924, is still used very frequently both for meetings of the Swedish clubs in the city and also for the bingo games held twice a week.

The number and variety of activities within the Swedish community create an initial impression that the body has a great deal of life and vigour. It is certainly true that through these organizations people of Swedish origin have been able to meet and maintain a sense of unity and common background. The sense of awareness so produced is leading to a number of efforts to catalogue and preserve the history of the Swedish community as a distinctive unit. Organizations, such as the Swedish Cultural Society and **Härjedalsgillet**, do much to encourage the existence of a Swedish identity, while others, like the Swedish Canadian Club, concentrate on social activities which bring members of the community together.

While playing a social role to some extent, the Vasa Lodge also retains its original benevolent orientation and concern for the welfare of its members. Concern for others has given rise to the Swedish Charitable Association and to the Swedish Canadian Rest Home Association which add to the larger Canadian community as well. Still other groups concentrate on one particular facet of the cultural heritage, such as the Bellman Male Chorus or the Scandinavian Dance Club.

The ties within the community are further strengthened by its newspaper, **The Swedish Press**, and it is able to hold meetings or sponsor activities in its own hall.

In some respects the activities of the various groups are complementary and it is quite possible for one person to belong to more than one organization. However, the very number of available clubs tends to fragment the Swedish population and decreases the likelihood of united action on any given question. Thus there is division over what direction the community should take now, whether to preserve a cultural heritage or whether to

allow the traditions, which often appear old-fashioned, to be dropped as people become progressively more Canadian. This question is thrown into sharp relief as there is now very little Swedish immigration and the old ways receive very little reinforcement from such a numerically small group.

Closely tied to this question is that of attracting younger people to the existing organizations within the community. It is obvious that without new members these groups will disappear as the older members are forced by age to become less active. Since many clubs are already composed largely of older people, this question looms very large. The general pattern seems to be that young people lose interest in their ethnic culture in their late teens, partly because it sets them apart from their peers. It is felt by some that this very difference could be used as an asset, and that the possibility of gaining a greater sense of identity through the ethnic tradition would appeal to today's young people. However, implementation of change is only possible after the inertia of the larger group has been overcome. Many of those who are vitally interested in preserving a Swedish tradition and in the introduction of new ideas find that it is a long and energy-consuming fight to obtain a favourable consensus within their organization or within the community as a whole.

Perhaps in the end it becomes a question of relevance. As long as the activities of the Swedish community are seen as relevant to the whole community (for example, through charitable work accomplished) and as relevant to the needs of individual members, new members will be attracted. If the needs of the individual change with time and the organization does not change to fulfill them, people will turn elsewhere for satisfaction and the organization will wither.

If the Swedish community fails to serve the needs of its members, or simply duplicates what is available elsewhere, it risks disintegration as a separate entity. Interest in the ethnic culture still exists as can be seen in the rapid growth of **Härjedalsgillet** or in the relative youthfulness of the members of the Scandinavian Dance Club. Whether such areas of potential interest will be correctly identified and exploited remains an open question at this time. Over the last decade, the Swedish community of Vancouver has proven itself unexpectedly tenacious and has shown more vitality than the casual observer might anticipate. □

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(4) Of the organizations mentioned in this article, those sending representatives to the Charitable Association and the Social Club are the Nornan Auxiliary, the Swedish Canadian Club, **Härjedalsgillet**, the Swedish Cultural Society, the Bellman Male Chorus, the Swedish Canadian Rest Home Association, and the Swedish Press.



# A History of the West Canada District of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

By Holger N. Madsen  
CHAPTER IV  
THE NORTH BECOMES A NUCLEUS

Then he said to me, "Son of man, lift up your eyes now in the direction of the north..." (Ezekiel 8:5a).

Across that great expanse of Canada which stretches west from the Lakehead to the Pacific Ocean, there was a great deal of activity in the early twenties. But the Americans engrossed in their own pioneering endeavors were largely unaware of the quickening pulse beat of that vast country which lay to the north. Nearly everyone thought of Western Canada as that great unexplored wilderness of mountains and snow. Nearly everyone was ignorant of its potential. Everyone, that is, except Canada's settlers and the North Dakota District of the UDELIC.\*

But the little North Dakota District felt Canada's heartbeat. She witnessed the great influx of Danes. And she shuddered at the immensity of its potential. Staggered and stunned by the cost of maintaining Western Canada as her own mission field, the North Dakota District cried out for help. At the Synodical Convention held at Racine, Wisconsin in 1922 the North Dakota District president put forth this impassioned plea:

Time and again the cry for help has been presented in the *Lutherisk Ugeblad* (Lutheran Weekly, a Synodical publication) for assistance in the Canadian mission work, in the hope that the Synod would "purchase the opportune time." And the opportune time is now. Our people as never before are pouring in through the open door and are spreading across the vast expanses west of Winnipeg. (1)

This plea, however, brought no concrete results or resolutions from the Synod. But the ground had been prepared. The following year theological candidate M. G. Christensen accepted a call to serve Sharon Congregation in Calgary. (2)

Encouraged by this response, small though it was, the North Dakota president strengthened his request in his next year's pre-convention report. This time he

advanced more concrete evidence to undergird his request. Some portions of his 1923 report read as follows:

With the exception of a few small preaching points in Montana, this District's entire mission work is exclusively in Canada.

The reason for this is not that there aren't many places both in North Dakota and in Montana where we could be working with good results. But the fact is that we as a District are not able to do much more than we are doing right now.

We have at present in Canada five organized congregations, of which three are self-supporting. Besides this there are four preaching points.

In Winnipeg Pastor Damskov and his wife continue their faithful work. But this work is not limited to the residents of the city. It also includes immigrant mission work, together with a campaign for funds to build a church in that city.

We do hope that this work may succeed so that it may be known that we as a Synod are desirous in helping to build a house of God in that city. For through this city pass hundreds of our people on their journey to the far reaches of Western Canada.

The mission work among our people in Canada is so great and so important that we dare not fail to draw the express attention of our Church to this fact.

What we do now—or don't do—for our newly-arrived countrymen in Canada will have unforeseeable results in the days to come.

Whether it is best to continue in the same old ruts, or whether it is better that the Canadian mission work be put directly under the Synod's sponsorship, and be supported by the whole Church, is not for me to decide. But I do feel that it is my obligation to introduce such a proposal for serious consideration.

And I would also stress the fact that it is not right that the great mission work among our people in Canada should be limited and curbed merely because it is sponsored by so small a District as ours.

It would therefore appear timely and most fitting to review this entire mission endeavor in order to gain a clear perspective of it at the forthcoming Synodical Con-

vention in Elk Horn, Iowa. (3)

A review was made of the Canadian situation, but the only result was the Synod's decision to support the building of a church in Winnipeg. (4) But even this small encouragement, plus the ever-expanding Canadian field, motivated the North Dakota District to continue and intensify its campaign to have the Synod sponsor Canadian missions. The North Dakota District Board sent an urgent request to the Synodical Board, asking them to re-consider the Canadian scene, which they as a District could no longer possibly carry. (5) To strengthen the Board's appeal the North Dakota District president reported once again to the 1924 Convention the immensity and the urgency of the Canadian Mission. This report included the specific request that the Synod linger no longer in taking this large northern field out of the hands of the District. To verify the fact that his aspirations for Canada were not unreasonable or irrational, he included in his report that the DKU\*\* had sent a gift of 10,000 kroner (approximately \$1450) to the church building fund in Winnipeg. There were others besides himself who had confidence in the future of Canada. This large monetary gift came as a result of a visit to the various Canadian fields by Bishop H. Ostenfeld of Copenhagen, the Primate of the Danish Church. (6)

Finally the North Dakota District president received a sympathetic hearing. At the Synodical Convention held in Fremont, Nebraska in 1924 the following three resolutions were adopted:

1. That the Canadian Mission be governed directly under the supervision of the UDELIC, and that it be directed by the Board of this Synod.
2. That we as a Synod exert all our energies in the task of gathering our people in Canada about God's Word and Sacraments.
3. That the funds for building a church in Winnipeg be collected as quickly as possible. (7)

Having accomplished this long-worked for dream, that Canada become a ward of the Synod, the North Dakota District president resigned his position and accepted a call to serve Standard, Alberta in 1924. However, it appears as though the North Dakota District was still responsible for keeping tabs on Canadian activity. A very detailed report of Canada accompanies the 1925 pre-convention report by the North Dakota District president. (8)

The next year's Convention report by the North Dakota District president also includes the Canadian scene, but there is evidence that there is a new outreach in his own District. (9) In this same year, a monetary gift of \$600 was received by the Synod from the DKU specified for its work on the Canadian field. (10) The Convention also set forth proposed amendments to its Articles of Incorporation. The reason for this:

... because it has been found advisable to extend the jurisdiction and general business of this corporation to

- (3) Ibid. (dt)  
(4) North Dakota, p. 15  
(5) Ibid. Cf. Yrbk., 1924, pre-con., pp. 29-30. (dt)  
\*\* Dansk Kirke i Udlandet (Danish Church in Foreign Lands, head office in Copenhagen, Denmark)  
(6) Ibid., p. 30. Cf. N. Damskov, A Brief Summary of Pastoral Activities During his Pastorate at the Danish Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. Deposited in the files of Sherwood Park Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, Man. (dt)  
(7) Yrbk., 1924, con., p. 119. (dt)  
(8) Yrbk., 1925, pre-con., pp. 30-32. (dt)  
(9) Yrbk., 1926, pre-con., pp. 30-31. (dt)  
(10) Ibid., con., p. 143. (dt)

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include the Dominion of Canada. (11)

Although the Synod had appeared to be reluctant to recognize the importance of the mission work in Canada, it must be said that once they were convinced of its potentialities, their action was decisive. Proof of this fact can be seen from two resolutions which were adopted by the 1926 Synodical Convention. These resolutions are as follows:

1. The Church Board in conjunction with officers of the respective Districts are authorized to place workers and appropriate means for the mission work in Canada according to their best judgment.
2. A committee shall be chosen to direct Danish immigrants to places in Canada where colonies are possible. (12)

This involvement was sufficient to convince the Synod of the vastness of the Canadian scene. Ignorance of the distances involved was noted in a letter written to the Winnipeg congregation by the Synod president a few years prior. In it the president suggests the possibility for the pastor of the Standard, Alberta congregation to serve the Winnipeg congregation as well. But he adds (as an after-thought?) that, owing to the distance between the two points, such a solution might not be satisfactory. (13)

In 1927, the North Dakota District president requests a more precise definition of his District's responsibility towards the Canadian mission field. He also suggests that Canada should become either a separate District or an area under the charge of a supervisor of all Canadian affairs, such officer to be appointed by the Synod. (14)

Having made a trip north to Canada in March of 1927, (15) and having seen at first hand the conditions extant there, the Synodical president was very responsive to these suggestions from the North Dakota District president. Therefore at its Convention that summer the following resolution was adopted:

As Canada at the present time offers the greatest and best possibilities as a mission field of our Church, and as it is well nigh impossible for either the Synod or the North Dakota District, on account of the great distances involved, to supervise properly this work, be it hereby resolved to divide the North Dakota District as follows: the part

- (11) Ibid., con., p. 140. (dt)  
(12) Ibid., con., p. 158. (dt)  
(13) E. R. Andersen letter to C. Andersen, May 9, 1919, from the office of the President of the North Dakota District of the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, Froid, Montana. Deposited in the files of Sherwood Park Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, Man. (dt)  
(14) Yrbk., 1927, pre-con., pp. 33-34. (dt)  
(15) V. Beck, A Brief Summary of Pastoral Activities During his Pastorate at the Danish Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. Deposited in the files of Sherwood Park Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, Man. (dt)

of Canada which lies west of Port Arthur, Ontario shall constitute a District by itself. Where it is deemed to be most advantageous, congregations in the southern areas of Canada may remain within the North Dakota District. Any arrangements of this nature are to be worked out by the two afore-mentioned Districts. (16)

Upon receiving identity as a separate District, the Canadian group lost no time in calling an organizational meeting. Although this new District was hatched it did not yet, nor would it for many years to come, be able to fly from its parental nest. But it had to be properly organized so that it could receive sustenance. Therefore from July 31-August 2, 1927, the newly born West Canada District of the UDELIC held its first convention at Standard, Alberta. There were six delegates and five voting pastors, plus two visiting pastors in attendance. The Synodical president conducted the meetings. Rev. L. H. Kjoller who had for a number of years been the North Dakota District president and who had also been the prime mover in getting Canada established as a separate district, was elected President of the West Canada District. (17)

And so there came into being in Western Canada a District office of the UDELIC. With an estimated 30,000 resident Danes in the District and a predictable yearly influx of 4,000, this new District had an awesome task cut out for it. (18) As its president pointed out in his first pre-convention report:

When we think of our work in Canada we need to take the Word of God to heart as it is written in Isaiah 54:2, Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; hold not back, lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. (19)

West Canada District is still small and weak and therefore it is in great need of the prayers, love, and continued support of the Synod. (20)

But before we become too involved with the problems of this new District, let us go back a few years. Now that we have explored the growing pains of Canadian Danish Lutheranism on the Synodical and the District level, let us take a look at the growth on the congregational level. Let us see what sort of legacy was bequeathed to this fledgling District which lay north of the 49th parallel and west of the Lakehead.

(Continued next Issue)

- (16) Yrbk., 1927, stat., p. 162. (dt)  
(17) Wcdm., p. 3. (dt) Deposited in the Archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Saskatoon, Sask.  
(18) Yrbk., 1928, pre-con., p. 43. (dt)  
(19) Ibid. (dt)  
(20) Ibid., pre-con., p. 44. (dt)

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